This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`

STANFORD UNIVERS
LIBRARIES

HISTORY

OF THE

COUNTIES, CITIES,

AND

BOROUGHS.

PART II. — VOL. IV.

THE

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY

OF

GREAT BRITAIN

AND

IRELAND:

BEING A HISTORY OF

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

AND OF THE

COUNTIES, CITIES, AND BOROUGHS,

OF

THE UNITED KINGDOM,

FROM THE EARLIEST PERIOD.

BY T. H. B. OLDFIELD.

"*Without a parliamentary reform*, the nation will be *plunged into new wars*: without a parliamentary reform, *you cannot be safe against bad ministers*; nor can good ministers be of use to you. No honest man can, according to the present system, continue minister."—*Pitt's Speech*, 1782.

"If an Englishman," said the great Frederick of Prussia, "has no knowledge of those kings that filled the throne of Persia, if his memory is not embarrassed with that infinite number of popes that ruled the church, we are ready to excuse him: but we shall hardly get the same indulgence for him, if he is a stranger to the origin of parliaments, to the customs of his country, and to the different lines of kings who have reigned in England."—*Kett's Elements of General Knowledge, Vol. II., Page* 3.

IN SIX VOLUMES—VOL. VI.

London:

PRINTED FOR BALDWIN, CRADOCK, AND JOY,

PATERNOSTER-ROW.

1816.

JN673
O7
v.6

Gillet, Printer, Crown-court, Fleet-street, London.

CONTENTS

OF PART II. VOLUME IV.

WALES.

INTRODUCTION 1
Anglesea County 2
Beaumaris 7
Brecknockshire 16
Brecknock 23
Cardiganshire 27
Cardigan 37
Carmarthenshire 43
Carmarthen 47
Carnarvonshire 51
Carnarvon 54
Denbighshire 57
Denbigh 60
Flintshire 66
Flint 68
Glamorganshire 72
Cardiff 74
Merionethshire 78
Montgomeryshire 81
Montgomery 83
Pembrokeshire 92
Pembroke 96
Haverfordwest 101
Radnorshire 108
New Radnor 111

SCOTLAND.

PRESENT STATE OF THE REPRESENTATION OF SCOTLAND 119
Report of the Committee of the Friends of the People 121
STATE OF THE SEVERAL COUNTIES OF SCOTLAND . 136
Aberdeenshire . . . . . ib.
Argyleshire 138
Ayrshire . . . . . ib.

PAGE

Banffshire 140
Berwickshire . . . . . ib.
Buteshire 141
Caithness-shire . . . . . ib.
Clackmannanshire 142
Kinross-shire . . . . . ib.
Cromartyshire 144
Nairnshire . . . . . ib.
Dumfriesshire 145
Dunbartonshire 146
Edinburgh County 147
Elgin County 148
Fifeshire . . . . . ib.
Forfarshire 150
Haddingtonshire 151
Inverness-shire . . . . . ib.
Kincardineshire 152
Kirkcudbright Stewartry . . . . . ib.
Lanarkshire 153
Linlithgowshire 154
Orkney and Shetland Stewartry 155
Peebles County 156
Perthshire 157
Renfrewshire . . . . . ib.
Ross-shire 158
Roxburghshire 159
Selkirkshire 160
Stirlingshire . . . . . ib.
Sutherlandshire 161
Wigtonshire 163
Edinburgh City 164

DISTRICT I. Kirkwall, Wick, Dornock, Tain, and Dingwall 165

DISTRICT II. Inverness, Forres, Nairn, and Fortrose 168

DISTRICT III. Elgin, Cullen, Banff, Inverary, and Kintore 171

DISTRICT IV. Aberdeen, Montrose, Brechin, Inverbervie, and Aberbrothock 173

DISTRICT V. Forfar, Perth, Dundee, Cupar, and City of St. Andrew 177

DISTRICT VI. Crail, Kilrenny, Anstruther Easter, Anstruther Wester, and Pittenweem . . . 180

DISTRICT VII. Kinghorn, Kirkcaldy, Bruntisland, and Dysart 183

DISTRICT VIII. Inverkeithing, Dumfermline, Culross, Stirling, and Queensferry 186

DISTRICT IX. Glasgow, Renfrew, Rutherglen, and Dumbarton 190

PAGE

DISTRICT X. Selkirk, Peebles, Lanark, and Linlithgow 193
DISTRICT XI. Haddington, Dunbar, North Berwick, Lauder, and Jedburgh 196
DISTRICT XII. Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, Sanquehar, Annan, and Lochmaben 200
DISTRICT XIII. Wigton, New Galloway, Stranraer, and Whitehorn 203
DISTRICT XIV. Ayre, Irvine, Rothsay, Inverary, and Cambletown 206

IRELAND.

REPRESENTATION OF IRELAND 209
Antrim 216
Belfast 218
Carrickfergus 219
Lisburn . . . . . ib.
Armagh County . . . . . ib.
Carlow County 220
Cavan County 221
Clare County 222
Ennis . . . . . ib.
Cork County 223
Cork . . . . . ib.
Youghal 225
Bandon Bridge . . . . . ib.
Kinsale 226
Mallow . . . . . ib.
Donegal County . . . . . ib.
Down County 227
Newry 228
Downpatrick 229
Dublin County 230
Dublin . . . . . ib.
Dublin University 231
Fermanagh County 232
Enniskillen 233
Galway County . . . . . ib.
Galway . . . . . ib.
Kerry County 235
Tralee . . . . . ib.
Kildare County 236
Kilkenny County . . . . . ib.
Kilkenny 237
King's County 238
Leitrim County . . . . . ib.

PAGE

Limerick County 239
Limerick 241
Londonderry County . . . . . ib.
Londonderry 242
Coleraine 243
Longford County . . . . . ib.
Louth County 244
Drogheda 245
Dundalk . . . . . ib.
Mayo County 246
Meath County . . . . . ib.
Monaghan County 248
Queen's County . . . . . ib.
Portarlington 249
Roscommon County 250
Sligo County . . . . . ib.
Sligo 252
Tipperary County . . . . . ib.
Clonmell 253
Cashell 254
Tyrone County . . . . . ib.
Dungannon 255
Waterford County . . . . . ib.
Waterford 256
Dungarvon 257
Westmeath County . . . . . ib.
Athlone 258
Wexford County 259
Wexford 260
New Ross . . . . . ib.
Wicklow 261
APPENDIX 281

HISTORY

OF THE

WELCH COUNTIES

AND

BOROUGHS.

INTRODUCTION.

By an act of parliament made 27 Henry VIII., the twelve counties, and as many towns in Wales, were imprivileged to send members to Parliament. The boroughs of Beaumaris, and Montgomery, can alone be said to be under absolute control. The influence which prevails in the other towns, is not the produce of corruption, but arises from the popularity and hospitality of men of considerable property, whose residences are contiguous to them, and who are ready to serve them with that assistance and advice, which the exigences of their situation may require. An instance of bribery is very uncommon among them, nor are their morals debauched by frequent invitations to election treats, which are the parents of drunkenness, idleness, and dissipation, and in their consequences more generally pernicious to society than any evil which exists in it. Unaccustomed to depend upon the precarious subsistence, which they may derive from a sale of their votes, they are continually ex-

ercised in being useful to the community, by the laborious employments in which they are engaged. Unlike the inhabitants of the rotten boroughs, who enjoy at one time the extreme of luxury, and at another are reduced to the most abject poverty, they divide amongst their families the hard, but well earned fruits of their labour and their industry.

ANGLESEA.

ANGLESEA is an island and county in North Wales, being about 24 miles long, 18 broad, and 80 in circumference, containing 200,000 acres of land. It sends two members to Parliament. The county is divided into six hundreds, viz. Llyfon, Maltraeth, Menai, Talybolion, Twrcelyn, and Tyndaethwy; and contains 6,680 houses and 33,806 inhabitants, being 15,775 males and 18,031 females, of whom 2,614 were returned employed in trade and manufacture, and 9,766 in agriculture. It is separated from Caernarvonshire by a long narrow straight, called the Menai, and the other sides are entirely surrounded by the Irish sea. The chief products are cattle and corn; and, in favourable seasons, great quantities of barley and oats are exported, with many thousand head of cattle; besides sheep and hogs, which annually cross the ferry of Menai, to the main land. The wealth and population of the island has of late years received a considerable increase, from the discovery of the famous copper mine, or *Parys mountain*, two miles from Amlwch, the largest bed of ore of that metal in the known world. It

is wrought similar to a stone quarry, quite exposed. A lead ore, rich in silver, is also found in the same mountain. Here is likewise a quarry of green marble, intermixed with asbestus. Husbandry, in general, has received great improvement since smuggling, which used to be carried on here to a great extent, has been discontinued. Here are likewise found mill and grind-stones. The island is divided into 74 parishes, of which most of the churches are situate near the shore, and lies in the diocese of Bangor. The principal town is Beaumaris, having a bay which affords good anchorage.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This county was empowered to send a knight of the shire to Parliament by the statute of 27th Henry VIII. The first return was in the 33rd of that king; but we find, that the principality of Wales sent representatives to the English Parliament as early as the 15th of Edward II; twelve out of each province of North and South Wales; but whether they were chosen by the particular counties or provinces, is uncertain; nor were there afterwards any further returns till the time of King Henry VIII., as aforesaid.

There does not appear to have been any contested election for this county until the last century; of which we find the following memoirs:

Petitions, &c. Oct. 19, 1722. A petition of Owen Meyrick, esq., of Bodorgan, complaining of an undue return of the Honourable Richard Lord Bulkley, by increasing the number of free-

holders by executing illegal conveyances, and making collusive estates of several houses or hereditaments, of about 45*s*. per annum, to several of his servants and other persons, to enable them to vote for the said Lord Bulkley; and by the said Lord Bulkley and his friends using menacing words to deter several of the freeholders from polling for the petitioner, together with other undue practices, &c.—Ordered to be referred.

Nov. 13, 1724. The same petition was again read and referred.

March 13. Mr. Gybbon reported the matter of the said petition as follows:

That the committee had examined the matter of the said petition. The poll was—For Lord Bulkley 217—The petitioner 148.

That the petitioner objected to 111 of the said late Lord Bulkley's voters, 62 as not qualified by their estates to vote, and 41 as influenced by bribery or menaces:—That on the first head they called William Lewis, esq., who said he knew all, or the far greater part of the voters for this county, and had made it his business to speak with and enquire concerning them; and gave evidence of their declarations and confessions as follows:—That five had only leases for years; that 21 had freeholds by purchase within twelve months before the election, or by conveyances, executed within that time by Lord Bulkley, or others to qualify them to vote; that eleven had no freeholds; that two voted for lands of which the mortgagees were in possession; that another was only mortgagée for years; and fifteen persons' freeholds were under

40*s*. *per annum*; that two were not rated; that three others were rated under 40*s*. *per annum;* and the rates were produced.

Richard Thomas said that two others confessed to him they had no freeholds.

That on the head of bribery and corrupt practices, William Lewis, esq., said that 44 other voters had owned to him that they voted for Lord Bulkley for the following reasons, viz. six for money given by his lordship; two for money given by his lordship's directions; 28 for gifts, or promises of rewards by his lordship, of timber for repairs, fewel, marl, or the like; another for the remittance of rent by his landlord, a friend of the said Lord Bulkley; five others because of threats by his lordship; another because of threats by his agent.

Mr. Hugh Lewis said another was guilty of corrupt practices in the election.

Thomas Evans, being examined, gave evidence, that five others had owned they voted for Lord Bulkley, because of gifts or promises of rewards by his lordship of the like nature as before.

The counsel on the other side insisted that Mr. Lewis's evidence was not sufficient to disqualify so many voters, who generally had sworn to their freeholds at the election; and called William Lewis of Tryselwyn, who said that five of those objected to had sufficient freeholds at the time of the election, and for several years before.

William Owen, esq., and Hugh Price said the like as to 13 others objected to on the same head,

and two others were taxed at the value of 40s. yearly.

William Lewis of Tryselwyn said, as to bribery, that six of those voters were men of considerable estates, and 40 others men of substance, honest men, and whose characters and circumstances freed them from suspicion of bribery, and were all tenants to Lord Bellew, and as such, had always voted in his interest, or were now induced thereto by his friends—Whereupon the committee resolved:

"That the right honorable Richard late Lord Bulkley, Viscount of Cashell, in the kingdom of Ireland, was duly elected a knight of the shire to serve in this present Parliament for this county."

The said resolution being twice read, was agreed to by the House.

April 21, 1725. A petition of Thomas Lloyd of Llamden, esq., in this county, complaining of an undue return of Hugh Williams, esq., by John Owen, esq., the high sheriff, and Mr. Williams and his agents, abusing and intimidating several of the freeholders who came to vote for the petitioner, and by locking up others from voting for him, and by the said sheriff refusing to poll several persons who tendered their votes for the petitioner, and refusing to administer the oaths appointed to be taken by the freeholders; and by the said sheriff admitting several persons to poll for Mr. Williams who had no right; and by many undue practices and bribery, the said Mr. Williams procured himself to be returned, though the petitioner was duly elected.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of Privileges and Elections to examine the matter, and report the same with their opinion.—No report.

1728. Thomas Lloyd, esq., petitioned, renewed second sessions.—No report.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The representation of this county has not been contested since the year 1784, when Mr. Bayley was supported by the influence of his brother, the late Earl of Uxbridge, and Mr. Meyrick, by that of Lord Viscount Bulkley; the former of these gentlemen was then successful.

These two noblemen afterwards agreed not to oppose each other, either in this county or Caernarvon; the present Marquis of Anglesea therefore, nominates the number for Anglesea without opposition, and Lord Viscount Bulkley unmolested, procures the return of a representative of his recommendation for the county of Caernarvon.

BEAUMARIS.

Beaumaris, a market town in Anglesea, Wales, 249½ miles from London; containing 267 houses and 1,576 inhabitants, of whom 126 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture. It has a good harbour for shipping, and is a town corporate. The markets, on Wednesday and Saturday, are well supplied with all sorts of provisions.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This town sent members by act of parliament in the 27th of King Henry VIII., by which it was imprivileged. The first returns were in the 33rd of King Henry VIII., and Newborough, now a decayed village, was the county town of Anglesea; but being exempted by act of parliament the 2d of Edward VI., from the payment of the members, the privilege was limited to this borough, which has returned ever since.

No memoirs of elections, which have been contested, appear until the reign of Queen Ann, since which there have been several petitions.

PETITIONS, &c. A petition of Owen Meyrick, esq., mayor; Thomas Evans, bailiff; William Meyrick, esq., and William Wynn, gent., burgesses of the borough of Newborough, in the county of Anglesea; and also of Thomas Jones and John Davis, burgesses of the borough of Beaumaris, in the said county in behalf of themselves and several other burgesses of the said borough, complaining of an undue return of Henry Bertie, esq., was read, setting forth that the right of electing a burgess to serve in Parliament for the said borough, is in all the said burgesses of both boroughs;

That at the late election for the said boroughs, Sir Arthur Owen and Henry Bertie, esq., were candidates, and the majority of the burgesses present voted for Sir Arthur Owen:

That William Owen, esq., mayor, John Evans,

and Daniel Parry, bailiffs of Beaumaris, being friends to Mr. Bertie, rejected the votes of the petitioners, and a great number of the rest of the burgesses of both the said boroughs; and Mr. Bertie has procured himself to be returned in wrong to the petitioners and Sir Arthur Owen, who was duly elected as aforesaid; and yet in the said return no notice is taken of the borough of Newborough: praying such relief as the House shall think fit.

Ordered, this petition be heard at the bar of this House on the 2nd of April.

Nov. 28, 1709. A petition in substance the same with the former, was read and referred to the Committee of Privileges to examine, and report with their opinion.

Jan. 25, 1709. Mr. Compton reported from the Committee of Privileges and Elections, the matter relating to a contempt complained of by Sir Arthur Owen, in disobeying an order of the said committee, made for inspecting and taking copies of the charters, poor's rates, and other parish books, and other public town books or papers belonging to this borough of Beaumaris.

That the order was served upon the persons to whom directed, but they refused the said Sir Arthur's agent to inspect the said charters, books, and papers.

Mr. David Lloyd said, he served the order of the committee, (which he produced) on Mr. Griffith Parry, town clerk of Beaumaris, on the 2nd instant, and desired the inspection of the charters, but he was answered they were locked up in a

chest that had three locks, and he would endeavour to get the keys the next day; that the next day he applied to him again, and to Mr. Harrison, one of the bailiffs, who shewed him some books and papers, and shewed him an English copy of the charter, but refused to shew other of the said books and papers, some of which they owned were in the before mentioned chest, and others in the cupboard; and said, Parry told him the charter of Queen Elizabeth was at London, and they could not come at any writings and papers that were in the town chest, pretending one of the three keys was lost, and refused to open the cupboard, of which he owned they had the key.

Mr. Lloyd Bodville said, on Wednesday, the 4th of January, he demanded of the town clerk, the inspector of the charter, books, and papers mentioned in the order of the committee, but was absolutely refused to inspect the same, or to be let into the room, though he owned there were several records there.

A motion was made to re-commit the report, but disagreed to.

Ordered—Mr. Griffiths Parry to be taken into custody of the sergeant at arms.

18th. Mr. Compton reported, that the counsel for the petitioners alleged the right of election of burgesses for this borough is in the mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses in general of the boroughs of Beaumaris and Newborough.

They first read the statute of 27 of Henry VIII., entitled concerning laws to be used in Wales, which enacts "that every borough which is a shire

"town within the dominion of Wales, (except "Merioneth) shall choose one burgess, and the "burgesses' fees be gathered as well of the bo-"roughs, as they be burgesses of, as of all others "the ancient boroughs within the same:" also,

The statute of 35 Henry VIII., concerning the payment of their fees and wages, which enacts, "The burgesses of all the boroughs shall be "contributary to the payment of the burgesses' "wages of the said shire towns, shall have like "voice and authority to elect, name, and choose "the burgesses of the said shire towns, like, and "in such manner as the burgesses of every the "said shire towns have, or use to have."

Counsel alleged, that Newborough was a shire town till the reign of Edward the VIth., and read the statutes of 2nd and 3rd of Edward the VIth., for keeping the sessions and county days for Anglesea at Beaumaris; which after "appointing "the great sessions, shire, or county days, and "sessions of the peace, at Beaumaris, discharges "the borough of Newborough from payment of "the wages to the burgesses who shall be returned "for Beaumaris;" which exemption they insisted was given for removal of the County Court to Beaumaris. Read also a charter of 17th of Edward II., whereby it appeared Newborough was then a corporation.

And to prove the customary usage of the burgesses of Newborough, voting for a burgess to serve in Parliament for Beaumaris, they called Mr. Rowland, who said, he had known Newborough 55 years past, and that the inhabitants have

claimed to vote for a member of Parliament for Beaumaris for 48 years, and when Mr. Owen Hughes, who was mayor of Newborough (and he thinks recorder of Beaumaris) stood for Beaumaris, he sent to the burgesses of Newborough to come and vote for him, and about 30 of them went thither accordingly; but when they came, Mr. Hughes thanked them, and desired them to go home, for that the election was agreed; and that he remembered another controversy when he was a youth.

That he was a burgess of Newborough, but had quitted it since the last election.

Mr. Williams said, he was bred up under Mr. Hughes, and remembers the burgesses of Newborough came to Beaumaris to vote, but cannot say he saw them vote, or sign a return.

For Mr. Bertie, it was insisted, the right was in the mayor, bailiff, and capital burgesses of Beaumaris only, and that Newborough was not now a corporation; for although they had a charter of 17th of Edward II., yet the last charter was in the 15th of Henry VIII., reciting all the former charters; which said charter was surrendered the year following.

Read the original record from the rolls of said charter and surrender.

Read also the statutes of 2nd and 3rd Edward VI., reciting that assizes, &c., had been for 250 years at Beaumaris, and removed above 45 years before to Newborough, upon a false representation to Henry VII.; and because the village is not fit for the said purposes, the said courts

are removed to Beaumaris; and enacts, that Newborough shall thenceforth be free of the charges of any burgess, to serve in Parliament for Beaumaris; and insisted, as the surrender of the charter determined the corporation, so the statute determined their right of voting for members of Parliament for said borough.

Read also a charter of Queen Elizabeth, whereby the right of election of a burgess to serve in Parliament for this borough is vested in the mayor, two bailiffs, and 21 capital burgesses; and also a return of a burgess 39th Elizabeth, by which they appeared to have elected in pursuance thereof.

Upon the whole, the committee was of opinion,

"That the right of election of a burgess to serve in Parliament for this borough is in the mayor, bailiffs, and capital burgesses of Beaumaris only."

"That Henry Bertie is duly elected for the said borough;" to which the House agreed.

Oct. 18, 1722. A petition of William Bodwell, esq., one of the burgesses of the borough of Newborough, in the behalf of himself and several others of the burgesses for the said borough against the return of the Hon. Henry Bertie, esq., shewing that the right of electing of burgesses to serve in Parliament for Beaumaris is in all the burgesses of the said borough of Newborough, as well as in the burgesses of the said borough of Beaumaris; that at the election of members to serve in Parliament for the said borough, the said Mr. Bertie and the petitioner were candidates; that the majority of the burgesses of the said borough gave their votes

for the petitioner; that the mayor and bailiffs of the said borough of Beaumaris, favouring the said Mr. Bertie, rejected the votes of great numbers of the burgesses of the said borough of Newborough, and with violence hindered others from coming into the Guildhall of the said borough of Beaumaris to give their votes for the petitioner; and by these and other undue practices, the said Mr. Bertie procured himself to be returned for the said borough of Beaumaris.

Ordered: "That the said petition be referred to the Committee of Privileges and Elections, and that they do examine the matter thereof, and report the same."

Also, a petition of Lloyd Bodwell, esq., mayor, John Powell, bailiff, John Hughes, Rice Hughes, and John Williams, burgesses of the borough of Newborough, in behalf of themselves and several other burgesses of the said borough, complaining of an undue return of the said Mr. Bertie by the aforesaid undue practices; and adding, that several of the burgesses were in a riotous manner forced out of the Guildhall of the said borough of Beaumaris, and others assaulted and wounded; the doors of the said Guildhall were shut, to hinder the said burgesses from going into the same to give their votes for the said Mr. Bodwell, &c.

Ordered also to be referred in like manner with the first petition against Mr. Bertie.

Jan. 10, 1724. The petition of Mr. William Bodwell was again read, and referred as before.

Nov. 13, 1724. The said petition was again read, and referred as before; but no report appears.

In 1728-9, William Bovell, esq., petitioned, and Henry Bertie, esq., petitioned.

March 3, 1729. "That the right of election is in the mayor, bailiffs, and capital burgesses only, and the sitting members duly elected."

CORPORATION.

By charter of incorporation of 4th Elizabeth, it consists of a mayor, recorder, two bailiffs, and 21 burgesses.

RIGHT OF ELECTION.

March, 1709, and March 3, 1729. In the Mayor, Bailiffs, and capital Burgesses of Beaumaris only.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—24.

RETURNING OFFICER—the Mayor.

PATRON—Lord Viscount Bulkley.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

By the act of parliament made in the 27th of Henry VIII., *all the ancient boroughs in Wales* were to vote for one member to represent them in Parliament, and Newborough united with this place in electing a representative, but in the second and third year of Edward VI., Newborough was discharged by the court of grand session from contributing to the payment of the member; and this was made a pretence for depriving that place of the right of voting, though every other borough in the kingdom has since committed the same cause of forfeiture.

In the 4th of Elizabeth a new charter was obtained, appointing a corporation, consisting of 24 burgesses, who were to choose from amongst them-

selves a mayor and two bailiffs, and elect a recorder and member of Parliament. Thus the people of Beaumaris were deprived of the right of voting as well as those of Newborough, and this right became vested in a select body of 24 individuals.

This will also appear to be the origin of exclusive rights in every city and borough where such limitations have been introduced. It cannot be too often repeated, that the right of election was everywhere in the housekeepers at large, till it was first confined to the freeholders in counties by the famous statute of the 8th of Henry VI., and in cities and boroughs by new charters, and special resolutions of Committees of Privilege.

This town is the only place in Wales where the right of election has been limited to a corporation, and where thirteen individuals, which is a majority of this select body, return the member. Lord Viscount Bulkley has the influence and direction of this corporation.

BRECKNOCKSHIRE.

Brecknockshire is a county of Wales, bounded by Radnor on the north, Cardiganshire and Carmarthenshire on the west, Herefordshire and Monmouthshire on the east, and by Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire on the south. It is about 35 miles long, 30 broad, and about 100 in circumference, containing near 512,300 acres of land, of which 232,000 acres are in a state of cultivation, and 185,600 acres are waste, and unfit for cultivation.

It contains six hundreds, viz. Biulth, Crickhowel, Devynnock; Merthyr, Penkelly, and Talgarth; has four market-towns, Brecon, Builth, Crickhowel, and Hay; and 62 parishes, containing 6,315 houses, and 31,633 inhabitants, being 15,393 males and 16,240 females, of whom 14,346 were returned as being employed in agriculture, and 4,204 in various trades and manufactures. It is one of the most mountainous counties of Wales, the Vann or Brecknock Beacon being reckoned the loftiest mountain in South Wales. The chief commodities are corn, cattle, fish, and otters' fur, besides manufactories of cloth and stockings. Near the borders of Glamorganshire, which abound with coal and iron ore, there have lately been established several iron founderies and forges. It returns two members to Parliament, being one for the county and one for Brecknock, the county town.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This county first sent a member to Parliament by virtue of the statute of the 27th of Henry VIII. The memoirs concerning the elections we have met with are as follow:

Petitions, &c. In 1660, there was a contest between Sir Herbert Price and Sir Henry Williams, which was referred to the Committee of Privileges and Elections, and heard before them.

July 19, 1661. Information was given to the House, that Colonel Melburne Williams, attending as a witness for Sir Henry Williams, was arrested at the suit of one —— Page by George

Watson, one of the bailiffs of Westminster, on a *capias ad respondendum*.

Ordered: "That the said Mr. Williams be discharged without paying any fees."

July 25. Sergeant Charleton reported from the committee, touching the differences between Sir Herbert Price and Sir Henry Williams, in the election for this county, several miscarriages therein; and the opinion of the committee that the said election was void; which was agreed to by the House.

Ordered a new writ.

Nov. 20. A complaint was made in regard to the last writ ordered for the election of a knight of the shire for this county.

—— 22. Ordered, "That Walter Vaughan, late sheriff of this county, be discharged of farther attendance, paying his fees."

On Sergeant Charleton's report as to the business in suppressing the writ for this county, ordered, "That for the future, when any writ shall be delivered for any election of any member to serve in Parliament, the party that doth receive the writ shall deliver, or cause the same forthwith to be sent, to the proper officer of the place for which the election is to be made.

Upon this election, Mr. Jefferys was chosen, and Mr. Prodgers complaining of the undue election of Mr. Jefferys as knight for this county, the committee had examined the witnesses on both sides; and are fully satisfied the writ was long detained, and the election not made in the usual place; that many who were for Mr. Prodgers were refused, discouraged, or delayed, and the poll ad-

journed to his prejudice; and divers indirect means used to advance the numbers of electors for Mr. Jefferys, and to diminish the number of those who were for Mr. Prodgers, who would have had the majority if the election had been fairly carried; and the opinion of the committee, that the election of the said Mr. Jeffereys is void; in which the House agreed. Ordered, a new writ.

Nov. 26, 1693. A petition of Sir Rowland Gwynn, complaining of an undue return of Edward Jones, esq., by the partiality of the sheriff, and several illegal practices used by him and others, many persons were admitted to vote who were not freeholders, and others were deterred and influenced in giving their votes; and at last a false return was made in prejudice of the petitioner and freeholders of the county.

Feb. 22, 1696. Colonel Granville reported, that the committee had examined the merits of the election; that upon the poll the numbers were—for Mr. Jones 812—the petitioner 717.

It was insisted for the petitioner that there were many ill practices at the election; and called Mr. Daniel Williams, Mr. Powell, and others, who said, that the poll at this election lasted six days, whereas it used to be but two: that on the Saturday about 500 appeared, and but 62 polled; that the poll was adjourned at three o'clock at Mr. Jones's request; that there were several who were ready to have polled for Sir Rowland Gwynn; and, by reason of the market on the Monday following, were not polled.

That there was a court-leet of the Bishop of St.

David's ante-dated, and made at the time of the election, as believed, to take off Sir Rowland Gwynne's voters; for that several who were for him were summoned to that court.

That on Tuesday, the last day of the poll, the sheriff dismissed the country, without proclamation, at three o'clock, though desired to continue the poll, and adjourned till six, then cast up the poll, by which many of the petitioner's votes were left unpolled, particularly one Thomas Davis, who was present.

That before the sheriff adjourned on Tuesday, Mr. Daniel Williams desired him to call several of the petitioner's voters; but he (the sheriff,) refused.

That when the poll was over, he desired to be present when the poll was cast up, but was denied; and nobody was present for the petitioner, though a scrutiny was promised.

That they desired to make good several exceptions taken at the time of the polling: but this was not granted.

But it appeared to the committee, that there was one of each side did attend to see the poll fairly taken; and if any was excepted to, they were sworn.

That one who voted for the petitioner was presently imprisoned by the under-sheriff.

That several persons who voted for Mr. Jones had owned that seven several voters were threatened by several persons, or they would have voted for the petitioner.

That George George had no freehold, though he swore he had forty shillings a-year, and said he

did it at the pressing instance of Mr. Jones and his friends, and that Mr. Jones gave him five shillings for voting.

That Watkin Beavor promised to vote for the petitioner, but voted for Mr. Jones, and said he was persuaded to it by Mr. Jeffereys and his mother, who released him of 38 shillings rent.

That John Morgan was fined 20 shillings, and voted for Mr. Jones, upon the promise of Owen Morgan to get him discharged.

That David Bevan had four shillings to buy shoes for voting for Mr. Jones; that John Watkins was promised a grey coat and a horse.

That one scrupled to swear, but Jenkins persuaded him.

That the petitioner said he could disqualify several of Mr. Jones's votes, but the committee did not admit him, because contrary to the former votes of the House.

For Mr. Jones were called, Mr. Henry Williams and Mr Winter, who said the candidates agreed, and cast lots which hundred should be polled first, and it came to Mr. Jones's lot to choose the first: that the qualifications of the electors were settled; and, amongst the rest, it was agreed, that those who had leases, and Quakers who could make out their estates, should vote.

That before the county was dismissed, the sheriff asked if they had any more voters, and Mr. Daniel Williams called several, but they did not appear; whereupon, at the request of Mr. Mansel, who appeared for the petitioner, the sheriff dismissed the county.

That the sheriff did say he he was offered 100*l.* to make a double return.

Mr. William Williams said the sheriff asked if there were any more to poll for the petitioner? And none appearing, he adjourned to cast up and examine the poll; that B. James asked how the election went; and said 100*l.* for 100 voices for the petitioner. Mr. Harcourt denied his threatening one Hughes, and said he only desired him to vote for Mr. Jones as his neighbour; and Edward Hughes denied he was threatened, as charged by the petitioner's evidence.

Mr. Jones then offered to disqualify some of the petitioner's voters, but the committee did not admit him so to do, for the reasons before stated: upon the whole, the committee resolved:

"That Edward Jones, esq., is duly elected;" to which the House agreed.

Oct. 22, 1722. A petition of Roger Jones, esq., complaining of an undue return of William Gwyn Vaughan, esq., by many corrupt and illegal practices.—No report.

1735. William Gwyn Vaughan, esq., petitioned: renewed in 2d sessions.—No report.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The principal interest in this county is in Marquis Camden, as heir to the family of Jefferies of the Priory, in Brecknockshire; and Sir Charles Morgan, bart., of Tredegar, in the county of Monmouth. The present member is returned by the former interest; but the family of Morgan represented it in the twelve preceding Parliaments.

BRECKNOCK.

Brecknock, the town and capital of Brecknockshire, Wales, called by the Welch *Aber Honddy*, is seated at the confluence of the rivers Honddy and Uske, over which there is a stone bridge. The streets are narrow, dirty, and irregular, and the houses in general mean. It has three churches, and contains 499 houses and 2,576 inhabitants, of whom 654 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture. The market is on Wednesday and Saturday. Fairs, May 4, July 5, September 10, and November 17. There are several traces of old Roman encampments in the neighbourhood.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This town first sent a member to Parliament *anno* 27 Henry VIII. It was incorporated in 1555 by charter of Queen Mary. The memoirs relating to the election of its members in Parliament we have met with are these:

Petitions, &c. Jan. 6, 1640. Resolved upon the question, "That Mr. Herbert Price, returned a burgess for this borough, shall sit here as a member till his election be avoided.

Resolved upon the question, "That Mr. Robert Williams shall not sit as a member of this House till his election be decided.

May 17, 1660. Sergeant Charleton reported

from the committee touching the double return for this town, that Sir Herbert Price was returned by one indenture, and Kingsmill Lucy, esq., by another: and the opinion of the committee that Sir Herbert Price was duly elected, and ought to sit as a burgess for this town; to which the House agreed.

March 19, 1678. A petition of Thomas Mansel, esq., complaining of undue practices used by the bailiff of this town, in returning of John Jeffereys, esq., to serve in this present Parliament as a burgess, &c.

April 1, 1679. Sir Thomas Meers reported, that the committee had taken into consideration the matter of the return for this borough; and it appears that to the writ for Brecon is affixed an indenture, dated the 28th of February last, between Richard Jones and Lancelot Herbert, aldermen of this borough, and many other burgesses of the said borough, of the one part, and Thomas Bulcot, sheriff of the said county, of the other part: whereby the said alderman and burgesses had chosen Thomas Mansel, esq.; but the bailiff is neither party, nor hath set his hand and seal to it.

Also, another indenture is affixed to it, dated the same day, between the said sheriff of the county of Brecon of the one part, and John Walters, bailiff of the said borough of the other part, whereby the bailiff, with the whole assent and consent of the burgesses there, by virtue of a warrant of the said sheriff to the said bailiff directed, hath made choice and election of John Jeffereys, esq., to be the burgess of the said borough, signed

and sealed by said bailiff and burgesses, and also affixed the common seal of the said borough:

Whereupon the committee resolved: "That the indenture, wherein John Jeffereys, esq., is returned, is well and duly returned;" with which the House agreed.

April 5, 1690. A petition of Charles Morgan, esq., complaining of an undue return of Jeffrey Jeffereys, esq., by several ill practices, &c.

Ordered to be referred, but no report appears.

Dec 17, 1698. A petition of Jeffrey Jeffereys, esq., complaining of an undue return of Thomas Morgan, esq., by many illegal practices, particularly by the sheriff of Brecon, who acted very partially against the petitioner, and returned Mr. Morgan, &c.

Ordered to be referred.

Nov. 27, 1699. This petition was again presented and referred, but never reported.

March 3, 1713. A petition of Edward Jeffereys, esq., complaining of an undue return of Roger Jones, esq., by bribery and many other undue practices.

Ordered to be referred, but no report appears.

Oct. 25, 1722. A petition of the burgesses of this town, complaining of an undue return of William Morgan, esq., by several unwarrantable proceedings

Ordered to be referred.

Dec. 6. A petition of divers persons, whose names are subscribed, being the major part of the legal burgesses of this town or borough, relating to the petitioning of the burgesses of the said

town, complaining of an undue election and return for the said town, (which was referred to the Committee of Privileges and Elections the 25th day of October last,) being offered to the House, and the question being put that the said petition be brought up to the table, it passed in the negative.

1722. John Pratt, esq., petitioned against Thomas Morgan, esq. No report.

1728. John Jefferies, esq., petitioned.—No report.

CORPORATION.

Consists of two bailiffs, 12 aldermen, and 15 common-councilmen.

RIGHT OF ELECTION

In the Corporation and free Burgesses.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—near 300.

RETURNING OFFICERS—the Bailiffs.

PATRON—Sir Charles Morgan, bart.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This borough has been under the influence of Sir Charles Morgan and his ancestors ever since the year 1754.

The right of election in this place is not limited, as at Beaumaris, to a self-appointed corporation of 24 individuals, but extends to the burgesses at large of the town of Brecknock, who are mostly dependent on the property of the wealthy patron.

CARDIGANSHIRE.

CARDIGANSHIRE is a county of South Wales, bounded on the north by Merionethshire and Montgomery, on the east by Radnor and Brecknock, on the west by the Irish Sea, and on the south by Carmarthenshire. It is about 40 miles long, and about 20 broad, containing 500,000 acres of land, whereof 145,000 acres are in pasturage, and about 100,000 acres in a course of tillage. The county contains 8,819 inhabited houses, and 42,956 inhabitants, being 20,408 males and 22,548 females, of whom 2,896 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture, and 16,511, as persons chiefly employed in agriculture. The county is divided into five hundreds, viz. Geneurglyn, Har, Moddyn, Pennarth, and Troedyroyr; has five market-towns, viz. Aberystwith, Cardigan, Llanbadarnvawr, Llanbedar, and Tregaron, with 77 parishes; sends two members to Parliament, being one for the county and one for the county-town. It lies in the diocese of St. David's and province of Canterbury, and is included in the south-west circuit. Gross amount of assessment under the property-tax, 1806, 175,913*l.* Amount of money raised for the maintenance of the poor in 1803, 10,197*l.*, being at the rate of 9*s.* 1*d.* in the pound.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This county has returned members to Parliament by the stat. 27 Henry VIII., and has ever since returned. The memoirs of elections, and matters relating to them, which we have met with, here follow.

PETITIONS, &c. A petition of the gentry and others, freeholders of this county, was read.

Ordered: "That new writs be issued for election of members to serve in this present Parliament for this county and town."

Ordered: "That it be referred to the Committee of Privileges and Elections to examine the misdemeanor about miscarriage of the writ for elections of members to serve for this country; and that the committee do sit this afternoon to examine this business.

There doth not appear to be any report made from the committee of this matter.

Feb. 4, 1688. A petition of John Vaughan, esq., complaining of an undue election and return of a knight of the shire to serve in this present convention for this county, in prejudice of the petitioner.

June 20, 1689. Colonel Birch reported from the said committee the state of the case as it appeared to them, viz.

For the petitioner, the counsel insisted, that there being two coroners of this county, who ought to have made the return, the return was made only by one of them, viz. Morris alone; and though

there was an agreement between the candidates not to poll the non-residents, yet they were polled for Mr. Lewis, and refused for the petitioner; and there was an agreement to adjourn the poll till Monday, yet the coroner closed it on Saturday; and called Mr. Price, one of the coroners, who said Mr. Morris denied to seal up the poll books at the first adjournment; and it was agreed the non-residents should be laid aside on both sides, and Mr. Vaughan's non-residents were sent out of town; but next day Mr. Lewis's non-residents were called and admitted; that on Saturday night Mr. Lewis desired seven of his men might be polled, because they lived at some distance; and it was agreed, after polling seven each, the poll should be adjourned; that they after polled about seven each; but he went away, and Mr. Morris returned Mr. Lewis without his consent; that several of Mr. Vaughan's non-residents, who offered to poll, were refused.

Mr. David Lloyd and others witnessed the agreement about the non-residents, and the sending away Mr. Vaughan's non-residents, and also for the adjournment of the poll till Monday.

They then called some persons to prove that Mr. Lewis polled some persons not qualified. John Thomas John said he was informed that James Evans had four nobles a-year, Richard John about 20 shillings, and David John Prees, some said four nobles, others 30 shillings.

Jones said Evans was not a freeholder of above 25 shillings *per annum*, James had not 20 far-

things a-year, Richards 12 shillings a-year, and Hugh Williams no great matter; cannot say what.

For Mr. Lewis it was insisted, that the poll was fairly carried on; that the Prince of Orange's letter being delivered to Mr. Morris, the coroner, he gave the notice; that the poll began on Thursday, continued till Saturday, which was sufficient to poll all that were polled; that the non-residents were polled on both sides; that there was no agreement for the adjournment of the poll till Monday after seven were polled; and Mr. Vaughan polled 20 after the said pretended agreement.

Several witnesses were called, and upon the whole the committee resolved:

"That John Lewis, esq., is duly elected a knight of the shire to serve in Parliament for this county:" to which the House agreed.

April 1, 1690. A complaint was made against the high-sheriff of this county, that he hath not yet made any return of the members to serve in this present Parliament for this county into the Crown Office.

Ordered: "That the high-sheriff of this county be taken into the custody of the sergeant at arms attending this House."

4th. The high-sheriff having made his return, he was discharged, paying his fees.

8th. A petition of John Vaughan, esq., complaining of an undue return of Sir Carbury Price, by the illegal practices of the sheriff, in entering into a confederacy and adjourning the poll, and admitting the voices of such as only had mortgages, to poll for Sir Carbury Price; and denied

persons of the same capacity, and better estates, to poll for the petitioner: that the high-sheriff adjourned the court so often, and to such distance of place, that he polled the day after the writ was returnable; and by such partiality, he returned Sir Carbury Price to serve for the said shire, in prejudice to the county, and the petitioner, &c.

6th. Mr. Vaughan presented another petition against the return of Sir Carbury Price, complaining of very partial and illegal proceedings of the sheriff.

Nov. 28. Mr. Gray reported from the said committee, the case, as it appeared to them upon the said petition.

That the question was, whether the poll was duly adjourned from Aberystwith to Cardigan.

Upon the poll, the numbers were—For Sir Carbury Price 185—Mr. Vaughan 91.

That there is an act of parliament, 1st March, that says, That the sheriff's turn shall be held, *alternis vicibus*, at Aberystwith and Cardigan; and this time it was to be kept at Aberystwith.

That the sheriff came down the 9th of March; was not sworn till the 11th, and the election was the 19th.

That the sheriff some time before the election, declared the turn was to be kept at Aberystwith, but for the ease of the county he would adjourn to Cardigan.

For the petitioner, Marmaduke Williams said the sheriff declared all the voters should be polled at Aberystwith, before he adjourned to Cardigan; that the election began 19th March, when they

were called by several lists, and some were polled on both sides; and the sheriff adjourned the poll till the next day, and promised Mr. Vaughan his list should be called first: the next day, the under-sheriff came, and began with Sir Carbury Price's list; afterwards Mr. Vaughan delivered in a list of 150 freeholders, of which only 24 were polled: and the under-sheriff said, "adjourn to two at Cardigan," and so adjourned to Cardigan without proceeding in that list; though he believes there were several hundreds ready to poll for Mr. Vaughan, and many cried out to be polled.

Jones said to the like effect the surprise of the adjournment, and said besides the 91 polled for Mr. Vaughan, he knew of 273 freeholders more ready to poll for Mr. Vaughan at Aberystwith.

Haberly said, besides the 91 and 273 spoke of by Jones, he knew 49 other freeholders ready to poll for Mr. Vaughan.

Rice Vaughan said, there were 485 freeholders who would have voted for Mr. Vaughan, whereof 394 did not poll.

That, on behalf of Sir Carbury Price, there was called William Powell, who said, he believed there was 100 unpolled for Sir Carbury Price, at the adjournment on the 20th of March, 12 o'clock: that the reason the sheriff gave for the adjournment was, because he was advised that being the day of the return of the writ, he could not adjourn after 12 o'clock.

George Powell said, that several houses were taken up at Cardigan for Mr. Vaughan, but he never came or polled there; and Sir Carbury Price

polled about 37. Upon the whole, the committee resolved:

"That the adjournment of the poll taken at the election, for a knight of the shire for this county, by the sheriff of the said county from Aberystwith to Cardigan is a legal and good adjournment."

"That Sir Carbury Price, bart., is duly elected a knight of the shire, to serve in this present Parliament for this county."

These resolutions were read twice, and upon the second reading, the first was, on a division, agreed to by a majority of three, and the other by one only.

Nov. 12, 1694. A warrant for a new writ was ordered for the election of a knight to serve for this county, in the room of Sir Carbury Price, deceased. And,

Dec. 7. A complaint being made to the House, that the writ for the electing a knight of the shire for this county was not delivered to the sheriff.

Resolved: "That all the writs for the electing members to serve in Parliament, be sent immediately to the proper offices, for execution thereof, with all convenient speed."

Nov. 24, 1708. A petition of Thomas Johnes, esq., complaining of an undue return of Lewis Pryse, esq., by partiality of Nathaniel Griffin, esq., high sheriff of the said county, threats, and other illegal practices.—Ordered to be heard 10th Feb. next.

Nov. 16, 1709. Another petition of Thomas Johnes, similar to last.

Jan. 18. Mr. Compton reported the matter of

the said election:—That the poll was for Mr. Pryse 383—the petitioner 347.

But the counsel for the petitioner insisted, that the majority of votes was procured for Mr. Pryse by menaces, and other undue and illegal practices; as also by the partiality of the sheriff, in the execution of his office, and by his refusing to administer the abjuration oath, though thereto required; and they called several witnesses on their behalf.

Thomas Richards, clerk, said, that he is chaplain to St. Mary's, in Cardigan, and his salary, 10*l.* yearly; but when Mr. Langharne had the estate, he allowed him 40*s.* more, yearly; and about three years after, Mr. Pryse purchased the estate: he went to his steward, and demanded his arrears of his 40*s.* yearly, which was not paid till some time before the election, when the steward pressed him for his vote: but he told him he would not be engaged before the election; but was paid the three years arrears: that about five weeks before the election, Mr. Pryse asked his vote, and offered, if he would vote for him, he would make his salary 16*l.* yearly.

Morgan Howells, esq., said, Mr. Pryse about nine days before the election, treated him and about fifteen others.

That Mr. Pryse's counsel insisted that a scrutiny ought not to be granted in a county election; that Mr. J. Pryse had a majority of 36 upon the poll; that five or six proclamations were made before the poll was closed.

Several other witnesses were called and heard,

and the committee resolved:—"That Lewis Prise, esq., is duly elected, which being twice read, was agreed to by the House."

March 31, 1715. A petition of Thomas Johnes, esq., complaining of an undue return of Lewis Pryse, by many illegal practices:—Ordered to be referred to the committee.

Aug. 8. Upon a call of the House, the name of Lewis Pryse, esq., being called over, and he not appearing:—Ordered, that the said Lewis Pryse, be sent for in custody of the sergeant at arms attending this House.

Feb. 2. Reported—The messenger sent to bring Lewis Pryse in custody to this House, could not obtain him, when it was ordered that he be proceeded against with the utmost severity.

March 7. The sergeant at arms informed the House, that he had not heard from Mr. Pryse.

Mr. Speaker acquainted the House, that he had received a letter from the said Mr. Pryse, which was read, stating that he was unavoidably prevented attending the House, by a very severe fit of the gout; that he was sorry he had incurred their displeasure; that he did not know how far a man was obliged to stand to the choice a county makes of him; and complaining of force, that he did not ask a single vote, and that he hoped, under his unhappy incapacity, they would order a new writ.

Resolved: "That Lewis Pryse, esq., a member of this House, having been sent for, in custody of the sergeant at arms attending this House, the 8th day of Aug. last, for not attending the service

of this House; and having never qualified himself as a member of this House, by taking the oaths at the table, be forthwith brought up in custody."

23rd. Mr. Speaker acquainted the House, that the messenger who went pursuant to the order on the 7th inst. to bring Lewis Pryse, esq., up in custody, was returned: and the said messenger stated, he was still unable to find him; but had received a letter from Mr. Pryse's physician, stating, that Mr. Pryse thought it more advisable to be removed out of the way, than to make himself a prisoner in his sickly condition, the consequences of which would be fatal to him, if he should be required to undertake a journey to London, as his physician and the whole country could inform them.

Resolved: "That Lewis Pryse, esq., a member of this House, having been sent for in custody of the sergeant at arms attending this House, the 8th day of August last, for not attending the services of this House; and having never qualified himself as a member of this House, by taking the oaths at the table; and having been, on the 2nd of Feb. last, summoned to surrender himself into custody of the sergeant at arms, upon pain of being proceeded against with the utmost severity; and he having absconded, and peremptorily refused to surrender himself into custody, be for the said contempt, expelled this House."

March 7, 1716. A petition of Thomas Johnes, esq., to the same effect, was again read, and referred as before.

Dec. 6, 1717. Ordered, a warrant for a new

writ, for electing a knight of the shire for this county, in the room of Lewis Pryse, esq., expelled this House.

——1728. Thomas Powell, esq., petitioned.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The principal influence which prevails in this county, is that of the Earl of Lisburne, Lord Cawdor; Thomas Johnes of Hafod House, esq., and Major Powell, of Nanteos Park: the former, however, is considered as possessing the greatest interest. The late Earl of Lisburne having represented it in five successive Parliaments, previous to his decease, and since the indisposition of the present Earl has prevented his being returned, Mr. Johnes has been elected for the five last Parliaments.

CARDIGAN.

CARDIGAN is a market and county town of Cardiganshire, Wales, 37 miles from Aberystwith, and 233 from London; containing 415 houses, and 1,911 inhabitants, of whom 173 only were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture. It stands near the mouth of the river Teivey, on the Irish Channel. Market on Wednesday and Saturday. Fairs, February 13, April 5, September 8, and December 19.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This town was imprivileged to send a member to Parliament 27 Henry VIII. The contests con-

cerning the election of a burgess, which we find have come before the House of Commons, are these:

The matter concerning an election for this borough, as set out by Sir Symonds d'Ewes.

Nov. 5, 1604. For the matter between Dr. Aubrey, doctor of civil law, and Mr. William Delabarr, barrister of the common law, of Lincoln's Inn, touching the burgessship of Cardigan, in Wales. The cause stood thus:—Cardigan has been, by ancient precedents, ever since the first year of Queen Elizabeth, a burgess town, and ever since the return hath been for Cardigan only. Now this Parliament, the sheriff of the shire favouring the town called Aberystwith, after he had received the Parliament writ, sent his warrant to the bailiffs of Aberystwith to choose a burgess, &c., who chose a burgess, viz. Dr. Aubrey, and returned him a burgess for Cardigan and Aberystwith, and sheweth in the indenture the election to be made by both towns; and the indenture was signed with the sheriff's hand. On the other side, the bailiffs of Cardigan, understanding the writ to be come to the sheriff, took notice thereof, and without warrant from the sheriff made an indenture and election of William Delabarr, and sent the same in a letter to him. Mr. Delabarr sought the sheriff, or his deputy, in London, to deliver the indenture of Cardigan; but not finding him, delivered the same to the clerk of the crown, paid his fees, was sworn, and admitted into the House till this present day. Now at this Committee for Privileges, Dr. Aubrey came to complain: the committee

found upon the examination, that the county court was as well kept at Aberystwith as at Cardigan, *(alternis vicibus,)* and that the county court was to be kept this time at Aberystwith; so that when they went to the conference, both Aubrey and Delabarr were desired to depart forth, and upon consultation these questions arose:—1st. Whether the House have power to fine the sheriff, because, according to the statute, he sent not his warrant to Cardigan? next, if he be punishable by the penalty of the statute; also, if he have pursued his authority in making his election at Aberystwith; which are left, with the divers other doubts, to the discussion of the House on the next day, and to the report of Mr. Edward Hobbie or Mr. Solicitor. Nothing more appears; and this was taken from a private journal. Neither do we find it ever determined.

April 13. Mr. Sergeant Snig reported the case, and quoted statute 35 Henry VIII., whereby the inhabitants of all the cities and boroughs in every of the twelve shires of Wales, not finding burgesses for the Parliament themselves. must bear and pay the burgesses wages within the shire towns of and in every the twelve shires in Wales; the burgesses of every of the said cities, boroughs, and towns, which be, and shall be, contributary to the payment of the burgesses' wages of the said shire towns, shall be lawfully admonished, by proclamation or otherwise, by the said head officer of the said town, to come and give their elections for the electing of the said burgesses at the said time and place, lawfully and

reasonably, as shall be assigned for the same intent by the said head officer of the said shire town: in which election the said burgesses shall have like voices and authority to elect, name, and choose the burgess of the said shire town, like, and in such manner as the said burgesses of the said shire-town have.

—— 17. Moved, "That the sheriff of Cardigan might be sent for, to answer his proceedings at the election formerly complained of;" and disputed whether by the sergeant or by attachment; and resolved upon question to be sent for by the sergeant or his deputy.

April 30, 1662. Sergeant Charleton reported from the Committee of Privileges and Elections touching the election for the town of Cardigan, between Mr. Philips and Sir Francis Lloyd; that the question did arise upon the statute of 35 Henry VIII., as to the notice to be given of the election for members to serve for shire towns in Wales; and the committee was of opinion, that notice of all elections of members for shire towns ought, by the intent of the said act, to be given to the out-corporations and boroughs, which do not send burgesses themselves; and that no such notice being given, therefore the election of the said Mr. Philips is void: to all which the House agreed, and resolved it accordingly.

In 1708, Sir Humphry Mackworth, knt., petitioned against Sir Simon Harcourt, knt.—Petition withdrawn.

In 1730, there was a double return, viz. Thomas Powell and Richard Lloyd, esqrs.

May 7. Resolved, "That the burgesses of the borough of Tregaron have not a right to vote in the election for the town of Cardigan."

Resolved, "That the right of election is in the burgesses at large of the boroughs of Cardigan, Aberystwith, Lampeter, and Aptar, only; and that Richard Lloyd, esq., is duly elected."

In 1741, Richard Lloyd, esq., petitioned against the return of Thomas Pryse, esq. This petition was renewed *four sessions* successively, and heard at the bar of the House January 23, 1746, when the petitioner's counsel represented that he was not *prepared* to proceed, and desired the hearing might be deferred for three weeks, which being objected to by the counsel for the burgesses who voted for the late sitting member, Thomas Pryse, esq., deceased, praying, that, in respect of the time which had elapsed since the petitioner's first application, and of the opportunity thereby given him to be prepared to prove the allegations of his petition might be dismissed.

Ordered: "That the petition be dismissed, and that a new writ be issued in the room of the deceased member."

In 1768, Sir Herbert Lloyd petitioned against the election of Mr. Congreve.—No report.

In 1774, Thomas Johnes, jun., esq., petitioned against the election of Sir Robert Smyth, bart., The chairman of the committee appointed to try this contested election informed the House, December 7, 1775, that the petitioner was duly elected, and ought to have been returned; and

Glenbervie, vol. iii. p. 178, 285.

that the sitting member was not duly elected. The return amended accordingly.

Another petition was presented in 1812. Ordered to be heard March 16, 1813, but the sitting member retained his seat.

CORPORATION.

By charter of 25 Elizabeth, it consists of a mayor, two bailiffs, and 12 aldermen.

RIGHT OF ELECTION.

May 7, 1730. Is in the Burgesses at large of the boroughs of Cardigan, Aberystwith, Lampeter, and Aptar, only.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—upwards of 2,300.

RETURNING OFFICER—the Mayor.

PATRON—Earl of Lisburne.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The political interest in this district of boroughs is nearly the same as that which prevails in the county. Lord Cawdor was chosen for four Parliaments previously to his being created a peer; and the Hon. John Vaughan, brother to the Earl of Lisburne, has been elected into the five succeeding ones.

In addition to these two noblemen, Thomas Johnes, esq., John Adams, esq., Thomas Powell, esq,, of Nanteos, and Edward Loveden Loveden, esq., of Buscot Park, in Berkshire, have a considerable interest in the outlying boroughs of Aberystwith, Lampeter, and Adpar. At the last ge-

neral election, in 1812, there was a contest, when the numbers on the poll were, for the Hon. John Vaughan 154—Mr. Evans 141.

The borough of Tregaron formerly voted for this district, but was deprived of that right by a resolution of the Committee of Privileges the 7th of May, 1730.

In the year 1136 the Welch obtained a complete victory near this town over the English army, commanded by Ranulph, Earl of Chester. In this battle the English soldiers were struck with such a panic, that they suffered themselves to be taken prisoners by the women; the general, with a very few men, finding it difficult to make his escape.

CARMARTHENSHIRE.

CARMARTHENSHIRE is a county of South Wales, bounded on the north by the Severn Sea, or St. George's Channel, on the South by Cardiganshire, on the east by Brecknock and Glamorgan, and on the west by Pembroke; it is about 40 miles long and 20 miles broad; containing about 520,000 acres of land, whereof 228,000 acres are in pasturage, 114,000 acres in tillage, and near 100,000 acres are unfit for any cultivation. It is divided into eight hundreds, viz. Carnwallon, Carthinog, Cayo, Derllis, Elvett, Iskennen, Kirkwelly, and Perfedd; has one borough and five other market-towns, Kidwelly, Llandilovaur,

Llanelthy, Llangarn, and Llandimdovery; and contains 145 parishes, 13,449 inhabited houses, and 67,317 inhabitants, being 31,439 males and 35,878 females, of whom 4,343 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture, and 32,862 in agriculture. It has mines of coals and lead, the working of which, and the manufactory of woollen stockings, are the chief trade of the county. Near to Carmarthen may be seen the ruins of Kartelk Karney, which was situated on a steep and inaccessible rock; and in the neighbourhood are vast caverns, supposed to have been copper-mines of the Romans. It returns two members to Parliament, and lies in the diocese of St. David's and province of Canterbury. Amount of assessments under the property tax 1806, 378,814*l.*; amount of money rose for the maintenance of the poor in 1803, 17,046*l.*, being at the rate of 12*s.* 9*d.* in the pound.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This county sent a member to Parliament by virtue of the statute of 27 Henry VIII. The memoirs of its elections, and matters of that sort relating to its representatives, which we have met with, are these following:

PETITIONS, &c. Feb. 17, 1677. Information being given (to the House) that Sir Henry Vaughan being elected to serve for this county was outlawed, after judgment for a debt due on a bond of 1000*l.*; and the question being, whether he can be continued regularly a member of the House.

April 11, 1668. Sergeant Charleton reported from the said committee the case of the election of Sir Henry Vaughan; and that the committee were of opinion, that there was nothing objected against Sir Henry Vaughan to impede his sitting in Parliament, or that he was not duly elected a member; which being debated, the House agreed in the said opinion, and resolved accordingly.

In 1722, Sir Nicholas Williams, bart., petitioned against the election of Edward Rice, esq., complaining of many illegal practices used by the sheriff and others, in order to favour the return of the said Mr. Rice.

Dec. 18, 1724. Mr. Gybbon reported the matter of the said election upon the said petition.—The poll was for Mr. Rice 593—the petitioner 588.

That the petitioner's counsel produced evidence which disqualified three of Mr. Rice's voters, as having only leaseholds for years determinable on lives, and no freeholds; and objected to four others, which were admitted by Mr. Rice's counsel to be bad votes.

The petitioner's counsel alleged, that the petitioner could disqualify several others; but those already disqualified gave the petitioner a majority, therefore it was not necessary to give any further evidence.

The counsel for Mr. Rice offered no evidence, but admitted the petitioner had a majority, wherefore the committee resolved:

"That Edward Rice, esq., is not duly elected."

"That Sir Nicholas Williams, bart., is duly elected."

The said resolutions being twice read, were agreed to by the House.

Nov. 24, 1802. William Paxton, esq., petitioned against the return of James Hamlyn Williams, esq., by partiality of the returning officer, and other illegal practices.

Dec. 7, 1802. R. Mansel Philips, esq., an elector, petitioned, charging both Messrs. Paxton and Williams with bribery and treating.

The counsel for Mr. Paxton in his opening abandoned the charge of bribery and treating; and insisted, 1st. On the majority of votes in favour of his client. 2nd. On the illegal conduct of the sheriff, as a ground for avoiding the election. They began by offering evidence on the second head.

The election was not closed till the last hour allowed by the statute 25 Geo. III. cap. 84, sec. 1. namely three o'clock on the 15th day, when the numbers being cast up were declared to be, for Mr. Williams 1,267—Mr. Paxton 1,222.

But there appeared to be the names of many persons entered upon the poll with a query as having tendered their votes for each candidate, the right of near 80 on each side had not been decided upon when the numbers were declared.

The committee determined that it was not necessary for Mr. Williams to go into any evidence to rebut the evidence adduced by Mr. Paxton, of the partiality and illegal conduct of the sheriff, the evidence which had been adduced on that point not being deemed to amount to such a proof of partial and illegal conduct, as ought to avoid the election; and that Mr. Williams was duly elected.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The political influence of this county has been disputed for the last twenty-five years between Lord Dynevor and Lord Cawdor, but the former has always prevailed, except at the election for the short Parliament in 1806, when Lord Cawdor procured the return of Sir William Paxton.

CARMARTHEN.

CARMARTHEN or CAERMARTHEN is the county town of Carmarthenshire, South Wales, 18 miles from Lampeter, and 220 from London. The houses are well built, and are usually esteemed the best in South Wales; it contains 930 houses and 5,548 inhabitants, of whom only 206 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture. It was imprivileged by Henry VIII. to send a member to Parliament, and James I. granted it a charter of incorporation as a town and county of itself, with power to make bye laws. There are several iron and tin mines in the neighbourhood, and a large smelting house, belonging to Lord Cawdor. Market-days Wednesday and Saturday; fairs June 3, July 10, Aug. 12, Sept. 9, Oct. 9, and Nov. 14.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This town sent members by statute of 27th Henry VIII., and has ever since returned such members; the memoirs of its elections, &c. which we have met with follow.

PETITIONS, &c. April 12, 1614. Mr. Davis moveth against a sheriff in Wales, excluding one elected a member of this House. That he would not suffer them to have any burgesses at all.—For Carmarthen Mr. Thomas elected, being recorder there, moveth for a committing, and that the clerks of the crown and petty bag may attend, and ordered accordingly.

In 1727, James Phillips, esq., petitioned against the election of Arthur Bevan, esq. The sitting member was declared duly elected March 23, 1728.

In 1768, Joseph Bullock, esq., petitioned against Griffith Phillips, esq. The petition having been renewed, the sitting member was declared duly elected.—March 8, 1770.

In 1796, John George Philips, esq., petitioned against the return of Magens Dorien Magens, esq. The chairman of the committee that tried this election reported to the House, Nov. 7, that the petiner was duly elected, and ought to have been returned and that the sitting member was not duly elected, The return was amended accordingly.

In 1812, John Jones, esq., petitioned against the return of George Campbell, esq. A committee was appointed March 4, 1813. During the trial, Lord Cawdor's interference in the election was proved by many witnesses, and the sitting member was afterwards succeeded by his nephew.

CORPORATION.

It is governed by a mayor, recorder, two sheriffs, and twenty common councilmen, out of which the mayor is chosen, who is ever after reputed an alderman.

By charter of James I. it has a sword bearer.

RIGHT OF ELECTION.

March 7, 1727. Is in the burgesses of the said borough.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—about 500.

RETURNING OFFICER—the Sheriff.

PATRON—Lord Cawdor.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This town produces an instance of ecclesiastical interference at a former election, nearly similar to that of the bishop of Worcester in the reign of Queen Ann.

John George Philips, esq., of Cumgwilly, who represented this place in five successive Parliaments from 1784 to 1802 inclusive, had the misfortune to incur the displeasure of Doctor Samuel Horsley, then bishop of St. David's, by giving an independent vote for the repeal of the Test and Corporation acts, which have been so offensive to the liberal and enlightened part of the community ever since their enactment in the arbitrary reign of Charles II.

The bishop felt himself so incensed at the danger he conceived the church to be threatened with, as to induce him to write circular letters to all the clergy who had votes for this town, requesting that they would strenuously exert themselves in opposing Mr. Phillips at the ensuing election. However, neither the threats nor intreaties of this advocate for political conformity were productive

of the least inconvenience to Mr. Phillips. Sir William Mansel, the candidate supported by this pillar of the church, had not interest sufficient to hazard a poll, and Mr. Phillips was unanimously re-elected by his applauding constituents, and continued to represent this town during his life.

As there was no formal complaint brought against the bishop of St. David's in the House of Commons, he escaped those consequences which befel the bishop of Worcester in the reign of Queen Ann, for a similar attempt to prejudice the freeholders of that county against Sir John Packington, who was at that time a candidate to represent it in Parliament.

The following is a copy of the letter written by the bishop upon that occasion:

"Abberguilly, Aug. 24, 1785.

"Sir William Mansel has declared himself a candidate to represent the borough of Caermarthen in the next Parliament; I cannot refrain from declaring that he has my heartiest good wishes.—Mr. Phillips, the present member, has received the thanks of the dissenters, for the part he took in a late attempt to overthrow our *excellent* ecclesiastical constitution by the repeal of the Corporation and Test acts; which, I will venture to pronounce, are as wise and salutary laws as any in our code. By this it is easy to guess what part he is likely to take in any future attempt for that purpose.—I trust I shall not have the mortification to find a single clergyman in my diocese who will be so false to his own character and fame, and to

his duty to the established church, as to give his vote to a man who has ventured to discover such principles.

"I am, Rev. Sir,

"Your affectionate brother and servant,

"SAMUEL ST. DAVIDS."

Lord Cawdor governs the political interest of this place, and has procured the return of the members for the three last Parliaments.

This town was formerly reckoned the capital of all Wales, and the ancient Britons made it the seat of their Parliaments, or assemblies of wise men. When the eldest sons of our kings became princes of Wales, they fixed the chancery and exchequer, for the south part of their principality, at this place, where they continued till the jurisdiction of the court and marches of Wales were taken away.

CARNARVONSHIRE.

CARNARVONSHIRE, a county of North Wales, is surrounded on all sides by the sea, except the east, where it joins to Denbighshire, and on a small part of the south by Merionethshire. It is about 45 miles long and 13 broad; containing about 310,000 acres of land, of which 160,000 are only in a state of cultivation, mostly in pasturage, and near 100,000 acres unfit for culture, being deep dells, moors, and chasms, quite a dreary region: it contains 8,304 inhabited

houses, and 41,524 inhabitants, being 19,586 males, and 21,935 females, of whom 4,234 were returned as being employed in various trades, and 12,808 in agriculture. It consists of one city, one borough, and two other market towns, viz., Bangor, Carnarvon, Aberconway, and Pwllhely. The principal river is the Conway: in the vale thereof, there is excellent pasturage and some corn-fields. Copper mines have been worked in various parts of the mountains, as well as lead, and excellent hones are found near Snowdon. It lies in the diocese of Bangor, and province of Canterbury. Gross amount of assessment under the property tax, 1806, 131,800*l.*; amount of money rose for the maintenance of the poor in 1803, 9,137*l*; being at the rate of 4*s.* 0¾*d.* in the pound.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This county also returned a member to Parliament, by virtue of the statute of 27 Henry VIII. Of its elections and matters relating thereto, we meet with the following memoirs.

Nov. 10, 1640. Ordered a warrant to issue under Mr. Speaker's hand, directed to the clerk of the crown, for issuing a new writ to be sent to the sheriff of this county for election of the knight of this shire; because no county day did intervene between the receipt of the writ, and the day of appearance in Parliament, so that the writ was returned with a *tarde*.

Jan. 1. Ordered: "That James Brinker, esq., high sheriff of this county, be forthwith sent for as a delinquent, by the sergeant at arms attending

on this House, to answer his neglect and contempt to this House and Commonwealth, in not returning a knight and burgess for this county, in above a month after the election was made; and to answer other misdemeanors, by him committed, in the carriage of that election."

20th. Mr. Brinker, the high sheriff of this county, petitioned.

Feb. 16. Resolved upon the question: "That no longer time shall be given, than is already given by the committee, for bringing witnesses to be examined in the cause of the election of a knight of the shire for this county."

May 12. Ordered: "The committee for Sir Lewis Dive do sit to-morrow, in the afternoon, in the Court of Requests, to consider of the business and matters to them referred." After this we do not find another order or report.

April, 1690. A complaint was made to the House, that the sheriff of Carnarvon had not yet made a return of members to serve in this present Parliament.

4th. Another complaint against the sheriff.

Ordered: "That the said high sheriff be taken into custody of the sergeant at arms attending this House."

8th. The sheriff having now made his return into the crown office, and a motion made that he may be discharged—Ordered: "That the high sheriff of this county (first paying his fees) be discharged."

In 1714, Sir Roger Mostyn, bart., petitioned—No report.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The political influence over this county, is like that of Anglesea, between the Marquis of Anglesea and Lord Viscount Bulkley; but these noblemen having agreed not to oppose each other in their respective counties, the control of Anglesea is left to the Marquis of Anglesea, and the nomination for this county, to Lord Viscount Bulkley.

CARNARVON.

CARNARVON is the county town of Carnarvonshire, 57 miles from Dolgelly, and 250 from London; containing 609 houses and 3,626 inhabitants, being 1,588 males, and 2,038 females, of whom 400 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture; but it is only a township and chapelry to the parish of Llanbeblig, the church of which is half a mile from the town. There is a considerable traffic here in slate. The air is reckoned particularly healthy. Market day on Saturday, well supplied. Fairs, 12th Jan., 12th March, 16th May, 26th June, 12th Aug. 17th Sept. and 5th Dec.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This borough is the shire town of the county, and as such, with its contributary boroughs, Criccieth, Pwllhely, and Conway, returns one member to Parliament, by the statute of 37 Henry VIII.

The memoirs of its rights of election, and to its representatives in this respect, are these:

Jan. 11, 1640. Ordered: "That the petitions of Thomas Glynn, esq., and the petitions of the burgesses and freemen of the boroughs of Carnarvon and Conway, in the county of Carnarvon, be referred to the committee for Sir Lewis Dive's petition."—No report.

March 5, 1713. A petition of William Owen, esq., of Porkington, in the county of Salop, was read, shewing, that at the election for this borough, the petitioner and Thomas Wynne, esq., were candidates; that at the said election, a tumult arose, occasioned by Thomas Price, esq., concealing the sheriff's precept, who appeared at the election as counsel for Mr. Wynne: the mayor and bailiffs, with the petitioner, were forced to withdraw for their safety; by which means the petitioner is deprived of being returned; and that Mr. Meredith and Mr. Quillin, have returned the said Mr. Wynne, although they were not returning officers.

A petition of the mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses of the said borough, to a similar effect.

A petition of Griffiths Jones, Peter Rowland, and other burgesses of the said borough, to the same effect.

These petitions were ordered to be referred to the Committee of Privileges and Elections, to examine the matter, and report the same with their opinion—But no report appears.

Oct. 24, 1722. A petition of William Price, esq., complaining of an undue return of Thomas Wynne, esq.: renewed 2nd and 3d sessions—No report.

CORPORATION.

Consists of a mayor, who is by patent created constable of the castle, one alderman, two bailiffs, a town clerk, and two sergeants at mace.

RIGHT OF ELECTION.

In the Burgesses of Carnarvon, Criccieth, Pwllhely, Nevin, and Conway.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—about 700.

RETURNING OFFICERS—the Mayor and Bailiffs.

PATRON—Marquis of Anglesea.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This borough, with its contributary ones, of Criccieth, Pwllhely, Nevin, and Conway, has been under the influence of the Marquis of Anglesea and his father, since the year 1790, and has been represented by one of the family, from that period to the present time.

When Edward I. was building this town, it was reported that the body of the Emperor Constantius, father of Constantine the Great, being found here, he ordered it to be honourably interred in the new church. This king is also said to have converted the profits of the archbishopric of York, then vacant, to the building and fortifying Carnarvon Castle; in the eagle tower of which castle, in the year 1284, was born Edward of Carnarvon, the first Prince of Wales of the English blood, and afterwards king, by the title of Edward II.

In the civil wars, this castle was besieged by the Parliament forces, and was obliged to surrender to them in June, 1646.

DENBIGHSHIRE.

DENBIGHSHIRE is a county of North Wales, bounded on the east by Flintshire and Salop, on the west by Carnarvon, on the south by Merionethshire, and on the north by the Irish sea. Its extreme length is 48 miles, but its breadth is not above 18 miles. It comprehends about 410,000 acres of land, almost the whole of which is in a state of cultivation; and may be computed at 150,000 arable, and 250,000 of pasturage. It is divided into six hundreds; viz. Bromfield, Chirk, Isaled, Isdulas, Ruthin, and Yale; and contains one borough town, Denbigh; two market-towns, Ruthin and Wrexham; 57 parishes, and 12,621 houses inhabited by 60,352 persons, of whom 6,960 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture, and 21,104 in agriculture. Its principal rivers are the Clwyd and Conway. Wool forms a considerable part of the manufacture of this county, and is wrought into cloths of different qualities, as well as stockings, particularly those called *Angola* hose. Denbighshire returns two members to Parliament, viz. one for the county, and one for the county town. It lies partly in the diocese of St. Asaph, and partly in that of Bangor.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This county is one of the twelve Welch counties impowered by the statute of 27 Henry VIII.

to send a knight to Parliament, and he hath ever since done so. The following memoirs of its elections and representatives we have found.

Nov. 5, 1601. Sir Robert Cecil moved the House to have their opinion, in that there wanted a chief member, viz. a knight of Denbighshire; and he said, I am to certify the House thus much in respect of some disorder committed there, touching the election by Sir Richard Trevor and Sir John Fludd, to which Sir John Salisbury is a party; the sheriff could not proceed in election: for mine own part, I think fit that Mr. Speaker should attend my lord keeper therein (*quod nota* attend). If it please you, you shall hear the letter; which was read, and the contents thereof was,

"That on the one and twentieth day of October, at —— he kept the county-day; and there, being quietly choosing the knight for the shire, a cry came suddenly that Sir Richard Trevor and Sir John Fludd on the one part, and Sir John Salisbury on the other, were a fighting, and all their companies were ready to do the like: whereupon presently I went to the church-yard where they were, and there I found both parties with their swords drawn ready, but with much ado pacified them both; and fearing, lest by drawing such a multitude together, there might great danger and bloodshed happen, I made proclamation that every man should depart. By means whereof I did not execute her Majesty's writ as I thought to have done, rather chusing to adventure your honor's

censure herein, than to hazard so great a bloodshed. (Subscribed) your honor's most humbly at commandment,

"OWEN VAUGHAN."

Also Mr. Secretary said, there was a schedule annexed to the letter which had some matters of importance not fit to be read, yet if it please the House to command it, they should, whereupon all cried "No, no."

After some debate, Mr. Speaker said I may inform you of the order of the House, that a warrant must go from the speaker to the clerk of the crown, who is to inform the lord keeper, and then to make out a new writ.

March 24, 1680. A petition of Richard Middleton, esq., touching the election for this county.

Ordered to be heard, but no report appears.

Oct. 24, 1722. A petition of Robert Middleton, esq., complaining of an undue return of Watkin Williams Wynne, esq., by menaces, illegal proceedings, and corrupt practices.

Ordered to be referred, but no report appears.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The prevailing interest in the county of Denbigh is that of Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, bart., whose chief seat is at Ruabon, near Wrexham. This gentleman has represented it in the five last Parliaments, and his father in the three preceding ones.

DENBIGH.

DENBIGH is the county town of Denbighshire, North Wales, 218 miles from London. It stands at the foot of a craggy hill, near the middle of the beautiful vale of Clwyd, and was called by the Britons *Cledfryn yn Rhos*, i. e. the *craggy hill in Rhos*. The town, although not large, is well built, and contains 534 houses and 2,391 inhabitants, of whom 794 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture, particularly of shoes, gloves, and other articles in leather. Market on Wednesday. Fairs 3d May, 15th July, and 14th September.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This is the shire town of the county; and as such, entitled to send a member to Parliament by the statute of 27 Henry VIII., from which time it has returned a representative. The following memoirs relating thereto we have met with.

PETITIONS, &c. March 26, 1679. A petition of the alderman and burgesses of the borough of Ruthin in the county of Denbigh, complaining, that they having right to vote at the election of a burgess to serve in Parliament for this town, had no notice of the time and place of election; but that the inhabitants of the town had privately elected and returned Sir John Salusbury, bart., to serve as a burgess for the said town.

Ordered to be referred to the committee.

Oct. 26, 1680. A petition of Edward Brereton, esq., also ordered to be referred, but we do not find any report.

March 29, 1690. A petition of the burgesses of the boroughs of Denbigh and Ruthin was read, setting forth that the said boroughs, and the vill of Holt, a small open village, are the ancient and only boroughs and vill in the county who have a right to elect a member to serve for the boroughs in the county: that the said Vill of Holt (though no corporation) hath lately assumed the power of making great numbers of foreigners burgesses of the vill, to serve the turns of some persons to be elected; and, by combination with others, have joined with Thomas Harper and Robert Knowles of Denbigh, arrogating to themselves the polling of the electors: and, to have Edward Brereton, esq., returned, did admit great numbers of persons so unqualified to vote for the said Edward Brereton, esq., and have accordingly returned him, though William Williams, esq., was duly elected by the majority of rightful burgesses of the said borough and ought to have been returned.

A petition of William Williams, esq., was read, shewing that by divers abuses, bribes, practices, and menaces, Edward Brereton, esq., was returned a burgess for the boroughs of Denbigh, Ruthin, and Holt, by Thos. Harper and Robert Knowles, who were not the legal bailiffs of the said borough of Denbigh in prejudice to the petitioner, who had the majority of qualified voices.

Ordered the said petitions to be referred to the

Committee of Privileges and Elections to examine and report the matter with their opinion.

Oct. 6. Mr. Williams presented his petition again; also the burgesses of Denbigh and Ruthin presented theirs.

Oct. 31, 1691. The burgesses of Denbigh and Ruthin presented their petition to the same effect as before; and it was again referred in like manner.

Nov. 2. Mr. Williams likewise presented his petition again; and it was referred as before.

Dec. 1. Mr. Williams withdrew his petition.

Feb. 17, 1700. A petition of Thomas Cotton, esq., complaining of an undue return of Edward Brereton, esq., by partiality of the bailiffs, &c.

Ordered to be referred.

— 25th. A petition of several burgesses of the borough of Holt in behalf of themselves and other burgesses of the said borough was read, stating, that by act of parliament 35 Henry VIII., the said borough, together with the boroughs of Ruthin and Denbigh, is empowered to elect a burgess to Parliament; at which election none but burgesses have a right to vote; and the election of such burgesses is, by an ancient charter, vested in the mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses of Holt; that on the 25th of August, 1698, Thomas Warburton, esq., then mayor of Holt: did, without the consent, and contrary to the express will of the bailiffs, and most of the burgesses, make above 400 foreigners and strangers, brought thither by the interest of Sir Robert Cotton of Cheshire, burgesses of Holt; in opposition to which proceeding, the

old burgesses did demand a poll, but Mr. Warburton peremptorily refused it; and, on the 28th of Sept. following made 400 more foreigners and strangers, brought thither by the like interest burgesses, although the like opposition was made, though to no purpose: that Edward Brereton, esq., prosecuted an information in the King's Bench against the said Mr. Warburton, for his irregular proceedings, which was tried at the last assizes held for the county of Salop, and a verdict was given against him, upon full evidence given by his own witness; and yet Sir Robert Cotton, on behalf of his son Thomas, did at the last election of a burgess to represent the petitioners, with Ruthin and Denbigh, demand that the said foreigners and strangers ought to vote in the election, and brought near 500 of them, which gave the petitioners much disturbance; Sir Robert pretending to a majority by such assistance: which proceedings, if permitted, may cause the election of a burgess to Parliament to be at the pleasure of any person as mayor; and manifestly tend to subvert the constitution of Parliament, and the freedom and rights of this borough.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of Privileges and Elections to examine and report.

No report appears.

March 30, 1715. A petition of John Wynn of Melay, esq., in this county, complaining of an undue return of John Roberts by bribery and threats of the said Mr. Roberts, and partiality of John Middleton, and Mr. Thomas Roberts, bailiffs of the said borough, and other illegal practices.

Ordered to be referred, but no report appears.

In 1741, Arthur Trevor, esq., petitioned against John Wynne, esq.

Renewed Sessions 2d and 3d.

Feb. 7, 1744. Resolved, "That the right of election is in the burgesses inhabitants of the boroughs of Denbigh, Ruthin, and Holt, respectively; and that the sitting member is duly elected."

CORPORATION.

Two aldermen, a recorder, two bailiffs, 23 burgesses, who have a town-clerk and two sergeants at mace.

RIGHT OF ELECTION.

Feb. 7, 1744. In the Free Burgesses of Denbigh Leon, *alias* Holt and Ruthin.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—at the last election in 1812, 196; though there has been in former times nearly 2000.

RETURNING OFFICERS—the two Bailiffs of Denbigh.

PATRON—Hon. Frederick West.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

These boroughs have been under the influence of the family of Myddelton of Chirke Castle, whose ancestors have represented them in various Parliaments from the 33d of Henry VIII., and whose name appears in almost every return for the last century. The late Richard Myddelton, esq., who was the last of the family in the male line,

represented these towns in nine successive Parliaments, but upon his decease his estate descended to three coheiresses, one of whom married the late Robert Myddelton Biddulph, esq., another married the Hon. Frederick West, brother to the late Earl Delawar, and the third remains unmarried. Since the death of Mr. Myddelton, these boroughs have been contested by his sons-in-law Mr. Biddulph, and the Hon. Mr. West. The late Sir Thomas Tyrwhitt Jones, bart., was chosen to succeed Mr. Myddelton, on the interest of the Hon. Mr. West. In 1802 Mr. West was elected, and represented them in the second Parliament of the united kingdom. At the general elections in 1806 and 1807, Mr. Biddulph was returned and sat for both those Parliaments. At the last general election in 1812, Lord Viscount Kirkwall, son of the Countess of Orkney, was supported by the Hon. Mr. West, in opposition to Mr. Biddulph, when the numbers at the final close of the poll were,

For Lord Kirkwall 99—Mr. Biddulph 97.

Mr. Biddulph petitioned against the return of Lord Kirkwall, but the committee declared his lordship duly elected.

Since the above determination Mr. Biddulph has died, but his successor is expected to dispute the patronage of these boroughs with the Hon. Mr. West whenever an opportunity presents itself.

FLINTSHIRE.

FLINTSHIRE is a county of North Wales, bounded on the north by the Irish Sea, and the estuary of the river Dee; on the east by Cheshire; and on the south and west by Denbighshire. It is the smallest of the Welch counties, being only about 38 miles long, and about nine broad; comprising 160,000 acres of land, of which 110,000 acres are pasturage, and only 20,000 acres arable. It contains 7,585 houses, inhabited by 39,622 persons, being 19,577 males and 20,045 females, of whom 6,989 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture, and 10,332 in agriculture. It is divided into five hundreds, viz. Coleshill, Mayler, Mold, Prestayn, and Rhyddlan; and contains one city, St. Asaph; one borough, Flint; one market-town, Caerwys; and 28 parishes, which are partly in the diocese of St. Asaph, and partly in that of Chester. The principal commerce of Flintshire is derived from its mineral productions; the lead ore is smelted on the spot, and the metal sent to Chester, whence it is exported; some of the ore is found to contain small quantities of silver. From the south-east part of this county the city of Chester is principally supplied with coal. Several potteries of coarse earthenware have been also established here.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This county also sent a knight of the shire to Parliament by the statute 27 Henry VIII. For

although it had a right of sending a part, or rather in electing a part of, the twelve for each province of the principality, in the time of Edward II., it made no particular return itself, till after this statute. The memoirs of its elections and representatives we have met with since that time are these:

PETITIONS, &c. May 5, 1626. Mr. Coryton moveth against the sheriff of Flint divers misdemeanors about the last election of the knight of the shire: that all these abuses proved by four witnesses of great worth, in the affirmative; moveth, where the committee gave a month's time for him to come up, that this time may be shortened.

Upon the question, the sheriff to be sent for to appear upon Tuesday fortnight, before the Committee of Privileges.—No report appears.

1735. Sir John Glynn, bart., petitioned: renewed second session.

1796. John Lloyd, esq., and the Hon. Lloyd Kenyon, severally petitioned against Sir Thomas Mostyn's election; and also complained of the high-sheriff for allowing Sir Thomas to stand candidate, he being under age.

April 27, 1797. The speaker read a letter to the House, which he had received from Sir Thomas Mostyn, wherein he says, that he did not mean to contest the petition presented against his election. The speaker observed to the House, that one month must be allowed (as the law stood at present) before a vacancy could be declared.

June 12, 1797. The chairman of the committee,

that tried these petitions, reported to the House, that Sir Thomas Mostyn was not duly elected, and ought not to have been returned; that John Lloyd, esq., was duly elected, and that his petition was not frivolous nor vexatious: that the defence of Sir Thomas Mostyn was frivolous and vexatious.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

Sir Thomas Mostyn has represented this county in the five last Parliaments, and his father, the late Sir Roger Mostyn in the eight preceding ones, and his ancestors, with only five exceptions, were members for the last hundred and twenty-five years, a convincing proof that this respectable family possess the commanding interest in the county of Flint.

Earl Grosvenor, and Lord Kenyon, have residences and estates in this county, and the former is lord-lieutenant, in which office he succeeded the late Lord Kenyon, but they have no controlling influence.

FLINT.

Flint is a borough in the hundred of Coleshill, Flintshire, of which it is the county town, 204 miles from London; containing 309 houses and 1,169 inhabitants, of whom 262 were returned as being employed in trade, &c. It is much frequented during the summer season as a bathing-place; but it has no market; the fairs are on the 5th February, 24th June, 10th August, and 30th November.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This, as being the shire town, with the boroughs of Rhyddlan, Overton, Caerwis, and Caergoerley, sends one burgess to Parliament by statute of 27 Henry VIII. The memoirs of its elections and representatives are as follow.

PETITIONS, &c. Jan. 22, 1628. The late election of Mr. Wynne, for this town, referred to the Committee of Privileges, to be there first heard.

Feb. 9. Mr. Hackwyll reported from the Committee of Elections, Returns, and Privileges, part of the case for the election at Flint, That the writ issued by the direction of the lord keeper; that the clerks in the crown-office, claimed, in times of prorogation, to make out writs of course without order from the keeper—yes; they had done so sometimes, in times of adjournment; that the clerks have brought precedents, appearing in their books, from the 14th Queen Elizabeth to 23 Elizabeth, 46 writs; and in the Parliament in the 1st Jac. In the prorogation,—writs, and two writs made in time of adjournment; that the committee hath left the matters to the resolution of the House, without any opinion delivered by the committee. This Parliament ended soon after, and no resolutions made.

Oct. 20, 1722. A petition of Edward Conway, esq., complaining of an undue return of Thomas Eaton, esq., by the great partiality of John Jones and John Pierce, who acted as bailiffs of the said borough, beside which several illegal practices

were made use of by the said Thomas Eaton and his agents to procure him to be elected.

Ordered to be referred.

Jan. 17, 1723. Another petition of Edward Conwey, esq., same as former.

Ordered to be referred, but no report appears.

In 1728, there was a double return, viz. George Wynne, and Salisbury Lloyd, esqrs.

May 21, Resolved: "That the right of election is in the inhabitants of the boroughs of Flint, Rhydlan, Overton, Caerwys, and Caergurly, paying scot and lot."

Resolved: "That the inhabitants of Knowlton and Overton Foreign, paying scot and lot in the parish of Overton, have a right to vote in the election for Flint; and that Salusbury Lloyd, esq., is duly elected."

In 1734, Sir John Glynn, bart., petitioned against the return of Sir George Wynne, bart. It was renewed the following sessions; and after several days hearing, on April 5, 1737, the sitting member was voted duly elected.

In 1742, Richard Williams, esq., petitioned against the return of Sir George Wynne.

March 19. A motion was made and the question being put, that the inhabitants of the several boroughs of Flint, Rhydlan, Caerwys, Caergurly, and Overton, including Knolton, and Overton Foreign, renting land or tenements for which the landlords thereof only pay scot and lot, have a right to vote. It passed in the negative: upon which the sitting member desired not to give the House any further trouble, and was voted not duly elected.

CORPORATION

Consists of a mayor, who is by patent, constable of the castle, and two bailiffs.

RIGHT OF ELECTION.

May 21, 1728. Resolved; "That the right of election of a burgess to serve in Parliament for the town of Flint in the county of Flint, is in the *Inhabitants* of the boroughs of *Flint*, *Rhydland*, *Overton*, *Caerwys*, *and Caergurley*, paying scot and lot."

Resolved: "That the Inhabitants of *Knolton* and *Overton Foreign*, paying scot and lot in the parish of *Overton*, have a right to vote in the election of a burgess to serve in Parliament for the town of Flint."

April 5, 1737. "That the Inhabitants of the above boroughs renting lands or tenements, *for which the landlords thereof only pay scot and lot*, have not a right to vote."

March 19, 1741. Same resolution.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—uncertain.

RETURNING OFFICER—the Mayor.

PATRON—Sir Watkins Williams Wynne, bart.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The right of election in Flint and its contributary boroughs, which are so many small villages, appears to have been mistaken in all the publications on the subject; from the ambiguity with which the resolutions of April 5, 1737, and that of March 19, 1741, are expressed on the journals, but we understand it to be as we have described

it. Simeon, in his appendix, has only given the two former resolutions, and Lord Glenbervie, in his first volume, page 337, only mentions the right as being in the inhabitants. We understand it to be in all the inhabitants of the boroughs of Flint, Rhydland, Overton Caergurley, Knolton, and Overton Foreign, and that such inhabitants renting lands and tenements, *for which the landlords thereof only pay scot and lot*, have not a right to vote.

Sir Watkins William Wynne, bart., has the intire command of these boroughs, and always nominates the member.

GLAMORGANSHIRE.

GLAMORGANSHIRE is a county of South Wales, bounded on the north by Carmarthenshire and Brecknockshire, on the east by Merionethshire, and on the south-west by the Severn sea or Bristol Channel, about 48 miles in length, and from eight to 27 in breadth; containing 422,400 acres of land, of which 305,000 are in a state of cultivation, viz. 43,000 as arable, and262,000 as pasturage. It is divided into 10 hundreds, Caerphilly, Cowbridge, Dinas, Powis, Kibber, Llangwelack, Miskin, Neath, Newcastle, Ogmore, and Swansea; comprising one city, Llandaff, one borough, Cardiff, and four other market-towns, viz. Cowbridge,

Neath, Penrice, and Swansea; and containing 14,225 houses and 71,525 inhabitants, being 34,190 males and 37,335 females, of whom 6,903 were returned as being employed in trade, manufacture, and handicraft, and 18,515 in agriculture. Total amount of property in this county returned under the income tax in 1806, 561,251*l.* Amount of assessment under the poor's rate in 1803, 27,780*l.* being at the rate of 7*s.* 3*d.* in the pound. It is included in the south-east circuit, and contains 118 parishes, all in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Llandaff. The plenty of coal with the convenience for exportation has occasioned the establishment of an extensive copper work at Swansea.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This county is also one of the twelve Welch counties whose liberty of returning a member to Parliament was founded on the statute of 27th Henry VIII. Of its elections, &c., we only find the following memoirs.

Petitions, &c. In 1735, Bussy Mansell, esq., petitioned, but we do not find any report.

In 1754, Charles Van, esq., petitioned against the return of Thomas Matthews, esq., but afterwards withdrew his petition.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The Duke of Beaufort, Marquis of Bute, Earl of Plymouth, Mr. Talbot, of Margam, the Hon. Mr. Windham, of Dunraven Castle, and Mr. Gray, possess the leading interest in this county, but in the famous contest in 1789, the Hon. Thomas

Windsor was supported by all the aristocracy of Glamorganshire, against the late Thomas Windham, esq., who stood on the independent interest of the freeholders, and so vigorously opposed this formidable combination, which had for its object the dictation of a representative that Captain Windsor found it convenient to decline, and Mr. Windham was elected into every succeeding Parliament till the time of his death in 1814.

CARDIFF.

CARDIFF is a market-town in Glamorgan, Wales, 160 miles from London; seated on the river Taff. The streets are compact, and the houses in general well built, containing 314 houses and 1,870 inhabitants, of whom 213 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture. A court of record is held here every fortnight, and the annual asizes for the county in April and August. The market on Wednesday and Saturday is well supplied; and those on the second Wednesday in March, April, and May, are very large, and a new cattle market every Saturday. Fairs June 19, Sept. 19, and Nov. 30.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This being the shire town of the county of Glamorgan, as such in conjunction with Aberavon, Cowbridge, Kenfigg, Llantrissant, Lougher, Neth, and Swansea is entitled, by the statute 27th Henry VIII. to send one burgess to Parliament. It has

several antient charters, which are all recited in the charter of the 23rd of Queen Elizabeth, and confirmed. The memoirs of contested elections for this borough, &c., are as follow.

PETITIONS, &c. June 28, 1660. Mr. Turner reported from the Committee of Privileges and elections, the case upon the double return for this borough. That upon the examination of the fact, it appeared that the sheriff summoned the bailiffs of Cardiff, and those of the out boroughs (who are also interested in the election) to attend the election at the usual place; and that the bailiffs of Cardiff came not up at the time to the place of election, though room was offered to be made for them, (for which they pretended the great concourse of people;) and that the sheriff and bailiffs of some of the out boroughs (the bailiffs of Cardiff making default as aforesaid,) proceeded to the election, and returned Bussey Mansel, esq., under the hands and seals of the sheriff and two of the bailiffs; and the committee are of opinion, the return is good, and that Mr. Mansel is duly chosen and ought to sit.

Resolved: "That the House do agree with the committee, and that Mr. Bussey Mansel is duly elected."

May 24, 1661. Sir Richard Lloyd, knt., being returned knight of the shire for Radnor and burgess of this borough, waved his election for this town, and made choice to serve as knight for the county of Radnor.

June 15, Mr. Sergeant Charlton made report from the Committee of Privileges and Elections,

touching the election for this town. That the committee had examined the cause upon the merits, and concerning Sir Richard Lloyd's waver of his being returned as burgess for this borough; and that it appeared to the committee, that after Mr. Thomas had preferred his petition, setting forth his election as burgess for this borough, Sir Richard Lloyd having notice thereof, and being elected knight of the shire for the county of Radnor, had waved his election for this borough; and that this House not being informed that that election was questioned, did thereupon direct a new writ for a new election; by virtue whereof, Mr. Basset was elected and returned; whereas, Mr. Thomas at the former election, had clearly the majority of voices, there being 105 for him and about 40 for Sir Richard Lloyd, and none of them came to the poll; and that Sir Richard Lloyd acknowledged that he knew nothing of the election till he was advised thereof by a letter; and that he did not make any defence; and the opinion of the committee that Mr. Thomas was duly chosen; and that the committee submitted to the judgment of the House what was to be done with Mr. Basset.

Resolved upon the question, "That this House doth agree with the committee, that Mr. Thomas was duly chosen burgess for this town, and only ought to sit in this House as burgess for this place."

Resolved also, "That the new writ and election of Mr. Basset is void."

June 18, Resolved upon the question, "That the deputy clerk of the crown, now attending at

the door with the returns, do take from off the file, the writ and indenture whereby Mr. Basset was returned a burgess for this town; and that he cancel the same." And also,

Resolved further, "That he do raze the name of Sir Richard Lloyd out of the indenture, whereby he was returned burgess for this town; and that he do instead thereof, insert the name of ——— Thomas, esq., who was duly elected for the said town of Cardiff.

March 19, 1678. A petition of Thomas Stradling, esq., the younger, complaining of an undue return of Sir Robert Thomas, bart., to serve in this present Parliament as a burgess for this town, in injury of the petitioner, who was duly elected, and ought to have been returned.

Resolved: "That it be referred," but no report appears."

In 1735, Thomas Matthews, esq., petitioned, renewed second session, but no report appears.

CORPORATION

Consists of a mayor, who is constable of the castle, twelve aldermen and two bailiffs, who are annually chosen from among the aldermen, and twelve common-councilmen.

RIGHT OF ELECTION.

Not only in the Burgesses of this place, but in the Burgesses of Aberavon, Cowbridge, Kenfigg, Llantrissent, Lougher, Neth, and Swansea.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—1,000.

PATRON—Marquis of Bute.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The Marquis of Bute has nominated the member for these boroughs in the last seven Parliaments; his influence prevails principally in Cardiff and Cowbridge; that of the Duke of Beaufort, in Swansea and Lougher; Mr. Talbot of Margam, has the influence of Aberavon and Kenfigg; and Mr. Hanbury that of Neath. The Marquis of Bute is allowed to have the control, and his nomination is implicitly obeyed.

MERIONETHSHIRE.

MERIONETHSHIRE is a county in North Wales, bounded on the north by Carnarvonshire and Denbighshire, on the east by Denbighshire and Montgomeryshire, on the south by Cardiganshire, and on the west by the Irish sea and Carnarvonshire. It is 35 miles long and 25 broad, and contains 500,000 acres of land, of which 350,000 are pasturage and 50,000 arable. It is divided into five hundreds, viz. Arduddwy, Edernion, Estimaner, Penllyn, and Talybont; and contains 37 parishes, four market-towns Bala, Dolgelly, Harlech, and Dynasmouthy, and 5,787 houses inhabited by 29,506 persons, viz. 13,896 males and 15,610 females, of whom 2,711 were employed in various trades, manufactures, and handicraft, and 10,308

in agriculture. The total return of income under the property tax in 1806, was 156,251*l.*, and the amount of money raised for the poor in 1803, was 9,449*l.* being at the rate of 6*s.* 4*d.* in the pound. This county lies in the diocese of Bangor, and returns one member to Parliament. Its principal rivers are the Dee, Defunny, Dyffi, Avon, and the Drwydth.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This county is one of the twelve enabled to send one knight of the shire to Parliament by the statute of the 27th of Henry VIII., and has done so ever since. The Journals afford no memoirs of a contested election. All we find relating to the matter of election is as follows.

Oct. 3, 1702. The House taking notice, that by the books of returns from the clerk of the crown, there is no return made by the sheriff of this county.

Resolved: "That the sheriff of Merioneth, for not having made a return of his writ, and of the member, elected to serve in this present Parliament by virtue thereof, is guilty of a breach of the privilege of this House."

Ordered that the said sheriff be, for his said offence taken into the custody of the segeant at arms attending this House.

Nov. 9. A petition of Edward Holland, high sheriff of this county, in custody of the sergeant at arms.

Nov. 10. The high sheriff acquainted the House that it was a surprize to him to find the

writ was not returned, he having executed the writ and made the return, and delivered it to the under sheriff to bring up; who brought the same with him and then withdrew.

Ordered: "That the said Mr. Holland be discharged out of the custody of the sergeant at arms."

Ater which a motion was made for taking the under sheriff into custody, but disagreed to.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

We find the name of Vaughan representing this county with only one exception for the last hundred and fourteen years.

The present member is Sir Robert Williams Vaughan, bart., of Nannan.

Evan Lloyd Vaughan, esq., who represented this county in five successive Parliaments from 1768, to the time of his death, was esteemed one of the last independent members of the old constitutional school.

There being no borough in this county adjudged proper to be made choice of to nominate a burgess, when the principality was imprivileged to send members by act of parliament, which was 27 Henry VIII., proves that some regard was had at that time to the equality of representation, and that care was taken not to constitute a representative body without constituents, as is the case in most of the present ones. It was therefore enacted, that Haverfordwest, a large town in Pembrokeshire, should elect a member to make up the deficiency.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE is bounded on the north by Denbighshire, on the north-east and east by Salop, on the south-east by Radnorshire, on the south-west by Cardiganshire, and on the west by Merionethshire. It is about 37 miles long and 35 broad, and contains 500,000 acres of land, having about 60,000 arable, 180,000 pasturage, and about 250,000 uncultivated, including wood lands. It is divided into nine hundreds, viz. Cawrse, Denddwr, Llanfyllin, Llanidloes, Machynleth, Mathrafel, Montgomery, Newton, and Pool; containing five market-towns, or rather boroughs, as they formerly returned one member to the Imperial Parliament, viz. Llanidloes, Llanvilling, Machynleth, Montgomery, and Welch-Poole. The county contains 47 parishes, 8,725 houses, and 47,978 inhabitants, viz. 22,914 males and 25,064 females, of whom 6,238 were employed in trade, handicraft, and manufacture, and 13,802 in agriculture. Amount of money raised for the maintenance of the poor in 1803 was 22,988*l.*, at the rate of 5*s.* 11½*d.* in the pound. The amount of assessment under the property tax in 1806 was 313,619*l.*, and the average scale of mortality for ten years appears to have been as 1 to 59 of the existing population. It lies in the dioceses of St. Asaph, Bangor, and Hereford, in the province of Canterbury, and is included in the north-east circuit.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This is also one of the twelve Welch counties enabled to send a representative to Parliament by

the statute of the 27th Henry VIII., from which time it has returned one member to Parliament. The memoirs relating to its elections are these:

PETITIONS, &c. July 16, 1660. Sir Edward Turner reported from the Committee for Privileges and Elections the case of the election of a knight to serve for this county—"That, upon examination of the fact, some objections were made against the validity of the former election, by reason the poll was demanded of the sheriff, and denied; and that the committee were of opinion the poll was not so demanded and refused as to make the election void; and that John Purcell, esq., who is returned to serve for the said county, is duly elected, and ought to sit:" whereto the House agreed.

Oct. 23, 1702. Notice being taken that the sheriff of this and other counties had not returned their writs for electing members to serve in this present Parliament,

Resolved: "That the said sheriff, for not having made a return of his writ, and of the members elected to serve in this present Parliament by virtue thereof, is guilty of a great breach of the privilege of this House."

Ordered to be taken into custody of the sergeant at arms attending the House.

Nov. 8. A petition of John Felton, high-sheriff of this county, in custody of the sergeant at arms, acknowledging his offence, and begging pardon for the same, and praying to be discharged out of custody.

—— 9. Mr. Felton being examined said, that he (immediately upon receipt of the writ) sent

it to Mr. Fowkes, his under-sheriff, and that the execution and return thereof was left to his under-sheriff, and that he signed the return accordingly.

Ordered: "That the under-sheriff be summoned to attend forthwith."

Ordered: "That the said Mr. Felton be discharged out of the custody of the sergeant at arms."

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The leading interest in this county is disputed between the Earl of Powis and Sir Watkin Williams Wynne: the latter has prevailed in returning the member to the five last Parliaments, but the Earl of Powis has frequently succeeded in his nomination antecedent to that period.

MONTGOMERY.

Montgomery is a borough, market, and the county-town of Montgomeryshire, 23 miles from Ludlow, and 169 from London; containing 155 houses and 972 inhabitants. It is situated on the ascent of a hill, near the right bank of the Severn, and was formerly surrounded with walls. At this place are held the general quarter-sessions and county-courts, alternately with Machynleth, and it has a gaol and house of correction. The market is on Tuesday. Fairs, first Monday in March, March 26th, Saturday before Good Friday, first Thursday in May, June 7th, September 5th, October 24th, and November 12th.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This is the shire town of the county of this name, and formerly, with its coadjutor boroughs, Machinleth, Llanidloes, Poole, and Llanvylling, elected one burgess, by virtue of the statute of 27th of Henry VIII.; but it hath lately been determined that the right is in this town only. The memoirs relating to several elections in the journals, are these:

PETITIONS, &c. 1580. In the vacation between the sessions of Parliament, several writs were issued by the Lord Chancellor, in the room of members sick or absent.

Jan. 19. Several members, elected by the virtue of those writs, were allowed to sit.

The names of the members are not in the original journal; but Sir Simond d'Ewes has inserted in his journal that Richard Herbert, esq., was elected, and allowed to sit for this town, in place of Mr. Pugh, who was supposed dead, but was only sick.

March 18. Ordered, (upon Mr. Cromwell's report,) "That Richard Herbert, esq., returned a burgess for this borough in the room and place of Rowland Pugh, esq., supposed to be dead, but yet known to be in plain life, shall be forthwith removed from his place; and the said Rowland Pugh shall stand and continue for the said place."

July 16, 1660. Sir Edward Turner reported from the Committee for Privileges the case upon the return of Thomas Middleton, esq., to serve for this borough; and the petition of Charles Floyd, "That, upon examination of the fact, it appears to

the committee that Mr. Middleton is duly chosen, and ought to sit:" whereto the House agreed.

March 19. 1678. A petition of Edward Lloyd, esq., complaining of undue practices used by the bailiffs, in electing and returning Matthew Price, esq., to serve for this borough, in injury of the petitioner, who was duly elected, &c.

Resolved: "That it be referred to the Committee of Privileges, &c."

A petition of Matthew Price, esq., complaining of an undue return of Edward Lloyd.

Resolved: "That it be also referred, &c."

—— 20. A petition of the mayor, bailiffs, and burgesses, of Machinleth, Llanidloes, Poole, and Llanvylling, complaining of undue practices used by the bailiff of the town of Montgomery, in not giving timely notice to the inhabitants of the said boroughs of the election; and, upon the day of election, excluding the petitioners from being polled, who had agreed to give their votes for Edward Lloyd, esq.; but the said bailiff, being influenced by some great person in the neighbourhood, returned Matthew Price, esq., to serve in this present Parliament as burgess for the said town, notwithstanding the petitioners, who were far the greater number, unanimously made choice of the said Edward Lloyd, to the great injury of the petitioners; and praying that the said Edward Lloyd may either have the benefit of their voices, or that the election may be made void.

Resolved: "That the said petition be also referred, &c."

April 1, 1679. Sir Thomas Meers reported, that the committee had considered the matter of

the return for this borough, and agreed on a report as follows, viz.

"There are two indentures, both dated the 18th of February; one between John Williams, esq., sheriff of this county, of the one part, and Edward Whittingham and Roger Jones, bailiffs, and many of the burgesses of this borough of the other part, (wherein Mr. Matthew Price is returned); and is signed by both the bailiffs and many burgesses, and a large seal against the bailiffs' names, and a seal to each of the burgesses' names."

"The other indenture between the same sheriff of the one part, and many burgesses of the boroughs of Montgomery, Poole, Machinleth, Llannidloes, and Llanvylling, in the same county, of the other part, (whereby Mr. Edward Lloyd is returned) and is signed by many of the said burgesses, but not either of the bailiffs' hands, or any seal at all."

Whereupon the committee resolved: "That the indenture wherein Matthew Price, esq., is returned is well and duly returned by the proper officers; and that thereupon he ought to sit in the present Parliament, as well returned for the said borough of Montgomery:" which was also resolved by the House.

Oct. 27, 1680. A petition of Sir John Trevor, touching the election for the shire town of Montgomery.

Nov. 8. A petition of the bailiffs and burgesses of the borough of Poole, in this county, touching the election of a burgess to serve in this present Parliament for this shire town; and a debate arising, whether the said petition be exhibited

within the time prefixed by the orders of the House, it was rejected.

March 24. A petition of Sir John Trevor, touching the election for this shire town.

Ordered to be referred, but no report appears.

May 23, 1685. A petition of Charles Herbert, esq., touching the election for this town; also a petition of the mayor and burgesses of this town, and of the boroughs of Llanidloes, Poole, and Llanvylling.

June 10. The House proceeded in the hearing of the merits of the said election; and the counsel being called in, and heard at large upon the matter,

Resolved: "That the election of a burgess to serve in Parliament for this shire town doth not belong to the burgesses of Montgomery only."

"That the several burgesses of the several boroughs of Llanidloes, Poole, and Llanvylling, in the county of Montgomery, have a right to vote at the election of a burgess to serve in Parliament for this shire town."

"That William Williams, esq., is not duly elected."

"That the late election of a burgess to serve in this present Parliament for this shire town is a void election: and a warrant ordered for a new writ.

Nov. 2, 1705. A petition of John Vaughan, esq., complaining of an undue return of Mr. Charles Mason, by great partiality of Mr. George Beddoes, one of the bailiffs, in the absence of Mr. Edward Morris, the capital bailiff of Montgomery, and by many other undue and illegal practices.

Nov. 6. A petition of Lumley Williams and John Herbert, esqrs., Morgan Edwards, John Davis, John Bembowe, Edward Evans, and Edward Lloyd, gentlemen, burgesses of this town and borough, to a similar effect as Mr. Vaughan's.

—— 8. A petition of John Wynn and William Nicholls, esqrs., bailiffs of the town and borough of Poole; John Price and Griffith Buckley, esqrs., bailiffs of the borough and town of Llanvylling; and Jenkin Lloyd, gent., mayor of the borough of Llandidloes, in the county of Montgomery; as well in behalf of themselves as of the rest of the burgesses of the said several boroughs to a similar effect.

Jan. 17, 1706. Mr. Compton reported the matter on the said several petitions as follows. The petitioners' counsel alleged, that the right of election was in the burgesses of Montgomery and three out-boroughs; and the same was not controverted by Mr. Mason's counsel.

That it was agreed Mr. Mason had a majority on the poll; but the petitioners' counsel complained of ill practices used to procure votes for Mr. Mason, and that there was no due notice given of the election; and also of a surprize in Mr. Mason's appearing a candidate.

As to ill practices, they called Evans, who said that Powell, who voted for Mr. Mason, and demanded a poll for him, offered Francis Herbert 10*l.* to vote as he would have him. Herbert voted for Mr. Vaughan.

As to the want of due notice, Evans and others said the electors were about seven or eight hundred persons; that in Montgomery alone were an hun-

dred and twenty; whereas at this election were polled seventy-one only; that there was a general complaint of the surprize.

Cooper said he had but an hour's notice.

It appeared also that it was not known Mr. Mason intended to be a candidate, or did appear in the town, till they had actually begun the election; and then Mr. Powell demanded a poll for Mr. Mason, and Mr. Mason appeared as a candidate.

On the poll there were for Mr. Mason 41—Mr. Vaughan 30.

That Robison, who took the poll, said it was carried on hastily, so that the names of one or two who polled were not set down by him; but it was admitted three proclamations were made for persons to come in to poll before the poll was closed.

For Mr. Mason it was alleged that due notice was given.

The committee resolved, "That Charles Mason, esq., is duly elected;" whereto the House agreed.

March 30, 1715. A petition of Francis Herbert, esq., complaining of an undue return of John Pugh, esq., by bribery and corruption, and other violent and illegal practices, by himself and his agents, &c.

Ordered to be referred, but no report appears.

In 1728, a double return.

April 16, 1728. Resolved: "That the right of election is in the burgesses of the said shire town only, and William Corbet, esq., duly elected.

CORPORATION

Consists of two bailiffs and 12 burgesses or common council-men.

RIGHT OF ELECTION.

June 10, 1680. That the election of a burgess to serve for this shire town, *doth not belong* to the burgesses of Montgomery only.

That the several boroughs of Llanidloes, Welch-Poole, and Llanvylling, *have a right to vote* at the election of a burgess to serve in Parliament for this shire town.

April 16, 1728. That the right of election is in the burgesses of *the said shire town only.*

The town of Machinleth, though an ancient borough, and entitled to vote under the statute of 27 Henry VIII., does not appear by the journals to have claimed its right at either of the above periods.

The two last resolutions of 1680, and 1728, being at variance with each other, the burgesses of Llanidloes, Welch-Poole, and Llanvilling, and also those of Machinleth, have a power to assert their right of voting for a member for Montgomery, before another committee of the House of Commons, by the statute of 28 George III., and also an appeal within twelve calendar months, against any future decision, is given them by the said act.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—80.

RETURNING OFFICERS—the Bailiffs.

PROPRIETOR—the Earl of Powys.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This town, like all the others in Wales which were imprivileged to send members to Parliament, had its contributory boroughs, who participated in the invaluable right of election, until the year

1728, when one of those resolutions of the House, which has swept away the constituents of most of the English boroughs, extended the disfranchising arm of authority to those of Machinleth, Llanidloes, Llanvilling, and Welchpool, which are now stripped of their ancient privileges, and the right declared to be in the burgesses of Montgomery *only*. The number of electors are now not more than eighty; consequently the independence of its parliamentary character is at an end, and the borough, like that of Beaumaris, is entirely at the disposal of a patron.

Of the boroughs disfranchised by the resolution of the Committee of Privileges in 1728, Welch-Poole contains 530 houses; Machinleth 241; Llanvilling 437; Llanidloes 480 houses; and the four boroughs united, have a population of 7,516 persons, who were all deprived of the right of representation, to confine it to Montgomery, a place with only 155 houses, and 972 inhabitants. In what way can this be accounted for, except that Montgomery is the property of a lord, while the other four boroughs are perfectly independent. They were all equally entitled to the exercise of this privilege, by 27 Henry VIII., which empowered Wales to send twelve representatives for the counties, and as many for all the ancient boroughs. Welch-Poole, Machinleth, Llanvilling, and Llanidloes, were four of these ancient boroughs; they continued to exercise the right of voting from the year 1536, to 1727, a period of 191 years, when it was resolved, that the right of election was in the borough of Montgomery only!!! In

the same manner have the inhabitants of most of the boroughs in England been deprived of the same right; and what renders this grievance the more inexplicable and oppressive is, that almost every committee has differed with the former one in its determination. The journals are crowded with these contradictory resolutions, and in the cases of Saltash and Steyning, two members have been sitting in the House at the same time, who have been elected by different descriptions of constituents, and both have been determined by succeeding committees, to possess the exclusive right of election.

This plainly demonstrates, that the original right of the people has been lost sight of, and that these determinations originate in an ignorance of the constitution of Parliament, though there are not wanting persons who attribute them to other motives. If the Grenville Act had repealed all these resolutions, and established the right in the householders of all the boroughs, it would have restored the ancient right of election, and saved a million of money that has since been expended in contest and litigation.

PEMBROKESHIRE.

PEMBROKESHIRE is a county in South Wales, bounded on the north east by Cardiganshire, on the east by Carmarthenshire, and on the other sides by the Irish sea. It may be estimated to be

in length about 30 miles, and its extreme breadth about 27. It contains about 335,600 acres of land, about 140,000 being arable, 160,000 pasturage, and of the remainder, about 8,000 acres appear to be totally unfit for cultivation. This county is divided into seven hundreds; viz. Castle Martin, Dewsland, Dungleddy, Kemess, Kilgerron, Narberth, and Rouse, and contains one city, St. David's; one borough, Haverfordwest; six market towns; Fishguard, Kilgarron, Newport, Pembroke, Tenby, and Whiston; the whole containing 145 parishes, 11,869 houses, inhabited by 56,280 persons; viz. 25,406 males, and 30,874 females, of whom 4,846 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture, and 20,088 in agriculture. There is a cotton mill near Haverfordwest, a forge at Blackpool, and iron and tin works on the Tivy. Some years since an attempt was made to introduce the linen manufacture, but it did not succeed. The amount of assessment under the property tax in 1806 was 322,700*l.*, and the amount of money raised for the maintenance of the poor in 1803, was 13,213*l.*, at the rate of 11*s.* 8½*d.* in the pound. The average scale of mortality according to the registered burials for ten years, appears to have been as 1 to 70 of the existing population.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This is one of the twelve Welch counties. It was formerly a county palatine, within Wales, and its earl was *Comes Palatinus*, and had *Jura Regalia*. Its jurisdiction was taken away by the statute 27 Henry VIII., which enabled it to send one knight of the shire, and two burgesses: one

for Pembroke, and one for Haverfordwest. The memoirs of matters relating to its elections, here follow.

May 28, 1634. Mr. Glanville reported concerning one of the knights of Pembrokeshire, against Sir James Parrot. That the committee resolved not to meddle with it, because it came after the time six weeks.

Resolved, "That the election and return of Sir James Parrot, is due and good."

Feb. 21, 1700. A petition of John Barlow, William Skirme, John Philips, Owen Ford, esqrs., and several other freeholders of this county, complaining of an undue return of Sir Arthur Owen, by great partiality of the sheriff, in privately delivering the writ to Charles Phillips, John Langharne, John Meyrick, esqrs., great friends of Sir Arthur; and as pretended, deputed them, with Thomas Skirme, his under sheriff, with the execution thereof, and to take the poll, together with many other illegal practices.—No report.

March 30, 1715. A petition of John Barlow, esq., complaining of an undue return of Sir Arthur Owen, by great partiality of the sheriff, and that guards of twelve men were appointed, most of them servants to Sir Arthur, armed with his halberts, under the notion of the sheriff's men, many of whom behaved themselves very insolent towards divers of the freeholders, and beat them; whereby they had not the opportunity of giving their votes for the petitioner. Ordered to be referred, but no report appears.

1728. Sir Arthur Owen, bart., petitioned; renewed in 2d and 3rd sessions—No report.

1741. John Symmons, esq., petitioned, renewed 2d sessions and withdrawn.

1762. Hugh Owen, esq., petitioned against Sir Richard Phillips, renewed the following sessions. but on the 27th of March, 1766, requested leave to withdraw it, to which the House agreed.

1768. Hugh Owen, esq., petitioned, renewed the 2d sessions, when the merit of this election was tried at the bar of the House, and on the 6th of March, 1770, the House resolved it was a void election.

1774. Several of the freeholders in favour of Symons, esq., and themselves. The merits of this petition was tried at the bar of the House, when on April 27. 1770, the House resolved: "That the sitting member was duly elected."

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The political interest in this county, is disputed between Lord Cawdor, and Sir John Owen. At the last general election in 1812, there was a contest between Sir John Owen and the Hon. Mr. Campbell, eldest son of Lord Cawdor, which terminated in favour of the former: the numbers at the final close of the poll being, for Sir John Owen 1529—Hon. Mr. Campbell 1344.

This is not considered by any means as conclusive in favour of the baronet, as Lord Milford represented this county in the eight preceding Parliaments, and was always chose in opposition to the Owen interest. Lord Milford and Lord Kensington unite with Lord Cawdor, and it is imagined that their united interest will prevail at a future election.

PEMBROKE.

PEMBROKE, a borough and market town, consisting of two parishes, in the hundred of Castle Martin, Pembrokeshire, situated on a branch of Milford Haven, 10 miles from Haverfordwest, and 250 from London; containing 323 houses, and 1,842 inhabitants, of whom 316 were returned as being employed in various trades and manufactures. The market is on Saturday. Fairs, May 14th, Trinity Monday, July 10th, and September 25th.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This is the shire town of this name, enabled to send a member to Parliament, by the statute 27 Henry VIII., and it has joined with it in this privilege, the boroughs of Tenby and Wiston. The memoirs concerning the elections and its rights in the journals, are these.

PETITIONS, &c.—May 18, 1621. Sir George Moore reported from the Committee for Privileges, concerning a burgess for this borough—That they of Pembroke stood upon it; they only had right, and the outboroughs none. That the outboroughs were refused to have their voice. Hereupon the choice of Powell by those of Pembroke, holden void by the committee.

Dec. 5, 1710. A petition of Lewis Wogan, esq., complaining of an undue return of Sir Arthur Owen, by bribery and many other illegal practices, and stating that the mayors and burgesses of Wiston and Tenby in this county, have a right to vote

in the election of a member, together with the mayor and burgesses of Pembroke; but the mayor of Pembroke would not permit the mayor and divers burgesses of Wiston to vote for the petitioner, though they had frequently used that right without interruption.

A petition of the mayor, divers of the burgesses, of the ancient borough of Wiston, in the county of Pembroke, on behalf of themselves, and the rest of the burgesses of the said borough, stating that the said borough is an ancient borough by prescription, and their mayor and burgesses, and also the mayor and burgesses of Tenby, together with the mayor and burgesses of Pembroke, have a right to vote at the election of a burgess to serve in Parliament for the borough of Pembroke, and have frequently exercised that right; and the mayor of Pembroke has given notice of such election; but Sir Arthur Owen, bart., (to gain the government of Pembroke wholly to his own hands) in 1704, procured himself to be elected mayor, (although by the charter he was not qualified so to be) and so continued illegally for two years, during which time he admitted great numbers of his dependant's tenants, and servants who did not live within the liberties of Pembroke, to be common-councilmen and burgesses; thereby intending contrary to the charters and bye laws of the said borough, to deprive the petitioners of their right of election. That Sir Arthur hath procured divers of his dependants of mean fortunes, who were not householders in the town, to be elected mayor, who have also admitted great numbers of unqua-

lified persons as burgesses of Pembroke; and the present mayor, Joseph Rickson, solicited in the last election for Sir Arthur, and proceeded to election, without giving the petitioners such notice as the law requires, and complaining of many other illegal practices.

Dec. 8, 1711. The said Mr. Wogan, and the said mayor and burgesses of Wiston, presented two petitions, the same in substance with those aforesaid, which were severally read, and referred again.

Feb. 22. Mr. Freeman reported the matter upon the said petitions, as it appeared to the Committee. That the counsel for the petitioners alleged, that the right of election is in the mayors, bailiffs, and burgesses of the several boroughs of Pembroke, Tenby and Wiston.

That the counsel for Sir Arthur Owen alleged the right of election to be in the mayors, bailiffs, and burgesses of Pembroke and Tenby only.

That the poll was taken of the burgesses of Pembroke and Tenby only. For Sir Arthur Owen 2 7—Mr. Wogan 124.

Hereupon much debate as to the burgesses of Wiston having a right to vote, when the committee resolved:

"That the mayor and burgesses of the ancient borough of Wiston, in the county of Pembroke, have a right to vote at the election of a member to serve in Parliament for this borough of Pembroke."

To add 239 to the petitioners' poll, was called John Owen, esq., who said, that the mayor and

burgesses of Wiston came to Pembroke to vote in this election, and upon their coming there, the fire-bell rang, upon which there was a great tumult: the burgesses and inhabitants for several miles ran together; and Sir Arthur Owen made a speech and told them, that the Wiston burgesses were come to destroy their rights and privileges. but he would stand by the corporation of Pembroke with his life and fortune; and thereupon the Wiston burgesses were said to be enemies; and the mob went up and down, and huzza'd at the houses into which those burgesses were got, to avoid the danger of this tumult. That the burgesses of Wiston who came to vote were 329; that the mob declared they would knock them on the head if they came to the poll; and guards were set against them at the hall stairs, &c., &c.

Griffith said, the fire-bell rang at Sir Arthur Owen's instance, &c.

The committee resolved, "That Sir Arthur Owen is not duly elected: that Lewis Wogan, esq., is duly elected:" whereto the House agreed, and ordered the return to be amended.

March 30, 1715. A petition of George Barlow, esq., complaining of an undue return of Thomas Ferrers, esq., by partiality of the mayor of the said borough, he being entirely in the interest of the said Thomas Ferrers, esq., and by bribery, promises of preferment, &c., and by many other illegal means: and although the said Thomas Ferrers is not legally qualified in respect of estate.

A petition of the burgesses inhabiting within the ancient corporation of this town and Tenby,

on behalf of themselves and other burgesses of the said boroughs, shewing that Wiston, a small village, never pretended to be a borough, or to have a right of voting, till within these four years; and all the colour of right Wiston had, is set forth in a manuscript under the hand of the deceased's material evidence, ready to be produced: and praying, &c.—No report appears on either of these last petitions.

1741. A petition of Raleigh Mansell, esq., renewed 2d sessions and withdrawn.

CORPORATION.

Is governed by a mayor, two bailiffs, and an uncertain number of common councilmen, out of whom the mayor is chosen.

RIGHT OF ELECTION,

Feb. 23, 1711. In the mayor, bailiff, and burgesses of the several boroughs of Pembroke, Tenby and Wiston.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—about 500.

RETURNING OFFICER—the Mayor.

PATRON—Sir John Owen, bart.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

These boroughs have been represented by the family of Owen of Orielton House, in the county of Pembroke, and by persons nominated by them ever since the restoration of Charles II., in 1660. This family having become extinct in the old line, their estates have been bequeathed to John Lord, esq., who has assumed the name of Owen, and has lately

been created a baronet. This gentleman is at present member for this county, and patron of this district of boroughs.

The burgesses of this place, in conjunction with those of Wiston and Tenby, elect the member. There is no special resolution of the House of Commons, respecting the right of the burgesses of Tenby, but with respect to those of Wiston, it has been resolved, that the mayor and burgesses of the ancient borough of Wiston, in the county of Pembroke, have a right to vote in the election for the borough of Pembroke.

HAVERFORDWEST.

HAVERFORDWEST is the principal town in extent, population, and trade, in Pembrokeshire, 10 miles from Pembroke, 7½ from Milford, and 264 from London; containing 593 houses and 2,880 inhabitants, of whom 375 were returned as being employed in various trades. This is the assize and county town of Pembrokeshire, and is called by the Welch *Hwlffordd*. It owes its advantages principally to the circumstance of standing on the banks of the navigable part of the Dungleddy river. The market here is one of the largest and most abundant in Wales, particularly for fish. It has also a very large corn-market, and a great fair for horses and cattle of all kinds on the 7th of July, the day of St. Thomas à Becket, the tutelary saint of the upper town. There is a cotton-mill near it, which employs about 150 persons, and is

the principal manufacture in the county. The markets are on Tuesdays and Saturdays, and the fairs May 12th, June 12th, July 7th, Sept. 14th and 24th, and Oct. 18th; and on the 1st of May and 29th of September in the adjoining precinct of Prendergast.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This borough within the county of Pembroke sends one member to Parliament in lieu of a shire town for the county of Merioneth. It is a county of itself by charter of King Edward IV.; afterwards by King Henry VIII.; and lastly by King James I. It was incorporated by King James I., and the last charter directs that it should be called by the name of the mayor, sheriff, bailiffs, and burgesses of Haverfordwest, during the said will and pleasure of the said King James. It has returned one burgess to Parliament from the 27th Henry VIII. Concerning the right of election and its representatives, in that respect the journals of the House of Commons afford the following memoirs.

May 28, 1624. Mr. Glanvylle reported from the Committee of Privileges and Elections for Haverfordwest. The committee of opinion to let it rest till the next sessions. So resolved by the House.

June 29, 1660. Mr. Turner reported from the said committee, the case upon the election of a member to serve in this present Parliament for this town; and the committee's opinion thereupon.

The petition of the mayor and common-council of this town and county was read.

The question being propounded, That this House do agree with the committee in their report concerning this town; and the question put, That this question be now put; it passed in the negative.

Resolved, "That the election of Wm. Phillips, esq., to serve in this present Parliament for this town is void; and a new writ ordered.

April 4, 1662. Sergeant Charlton reported from the said committee, touching the election for this town and county, between Sir Wm. Moreton, and Mr. Isaac Lloyd; That the question was, whether the mayor and burgesses of the town only, or the mayor, burgesses, and inhabitants, that paid scot and lot, had voices; and that upon perusal of the statute of the 31st of Henry VIII., the committee was of opinion, "That the mayor, burgesses, and inhabitants, that paid scot and lot, had voices; and that although Mr. Lloyd had the greater number of voices, yet divers of them did not pay scot and lot; and these being set aside, Sir Wm. Moreton had the major number, and so was duly elected.

Resolved upon the question, "That the matter touching the election for the said town, be recommitted to the said committee; to examine whether any of the burgesses and inhabitants of this town did not pay scot and lot, which did give voices for Sir Wm. Moreton, and how many; and to make their farther report, touching the election for the said town.

May 23, 1663. Sergeant Charlton reported

from the said committee, That the committee were of opinion, that the burgesses and inhabitants of this town who paid scot and lot had voices in the election; and the committee upon examination of the whole matter, were of opinion, that Mr. Lloyd was not duly elected, and that Sir Wm. Moreton was duly elected.

A petition was tendered subscribed by several persons touching the election for this town, and upon the question read, and then the resolution, That Sir Wm. Moreton was duly elected was disagreed to; and a new writ ordered for an election of a member for this town and county.

Oct. 15, 1667. A petition of Hugh Owen, esq.

Nov. 26. Sergeant Charlton reported the case of the election for this town and county, between Sir Frederick Hide and Mr. Owen.

That the committee had passed a resolve, viz.

"That the election for Haverfordwest is a void election:" whereto the House disagreed; as also to a motion to have it recommitted, and resolved,

"That Sir Frederick Hide is duly elected and ought to sit.

May 28, 1678. A petition of William Wogan, esq., complaining of an undue return of Sir Herbert Perrot, to serve for this town and county in injury of the petitioner, who was duly elected, and ought to have been returned.

Oct. 23. The same petition was again presented and referred in like manner. We do not find any report thereupon.

March 19, 1679. A petition of Thomas Owen, esq., complaining of an undue practice in the re-

turning of William Wogan, esq., in injury of the petitioner, &c.

Resolved, "That it be referred, but no report appears.

March 25. A petition of John Bowen, sheriff of this town and county, on behalf of himself and others, complaining of undue and illegal practices in one Edward Hughes pretended sheriff of this town and county, in electing and returning Wm. Wogan, esq., to serve in this present Parliament, in injury of the petitioner and others the inhabitants who did duly elect Thomas Owen, esq.

Resolved, "That it be referred."

Oct. 30, 1680. A petition of William Wogan, esq., was read.

A petition of the town and county of Haverfordwest was likewise read.

Ordered that they be referred, but no report appears.

May 15, 1715. A petition of John Barlow, esq., complaining of an undue return of Sir George Barlow, by the illegal practices of James Wheeler, esq., the present mayor, and Joseph Priest, sheriff, &c.

July 4. Mr. Hampden reported the matter touching the said election as follows:

That the right of election was agreed to be in the freeholders, burgesses, and inhabitants, paying scot and lot, and not receiving alms.

The poll was for Sir George Barlow 222—the Petitioner 181.

The counsel for Mr. Barlow excepted against 79 votes for Sir George Barlow, viz. 34 as illegal

burgesses; 20 alms men; 15 inhabitants, not paying scot and lot; eight neither freeholders, burgesses, nor inhabitants; and two minors.

And as to these exceptions many witnesses were examined, and the petitioners' counsel proceeded to give evidence of partiality and arbitrary proceedings of the mayor and sheriff in favor of Sir George Barlow; but the counsel for Sir George Barlow said they were surprised, and having no witnesses to justify the election, the committee resolved,

"That Sir George Barlow is not duly elected.

"That John Barlow, of Laurenny, esq., is duly elected."

Resolved, "That the proceedings of the mayor and common-council of this town, in making burgesses without the consent of the commonalty was illegal, and contrary to the rights of the said town; and that the burgesses so pretended to be made, have not thereby acquired any right of voting at any future election.

And then ordered the return to be amended.

1735. A petition of Wyrriott Owen, esq., renewed 2d and 3d sessions.—No report.

1741. A petition of Hugh Barlow, esq., renewed 2d sessions and withdrawn.

CORPORATION

Consists of a mayor, sheriff, two bailiffs, and twenty-four common-councilmen.

RIGHT OF ELECTION.

July 4, 1715. In the Freeholders, Burgesses,

and Inhabitants, paying scot and lot, and not receiving alms.

At the same time resolved, "That the proceedings of the mayor and common-council in making burgesses without the consent of the commonalty, was illegal and contrary to the rights of the said town; and that the burgesses so pretended to be made, have not thereby acquired any right of voting in any future election.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—about 400.

RETURNING OFFICER—the Sheriff.

PATRON—Lord Kensington.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

Lord Kensington, and his late father, have represented this town with only one exception for the last fourteen Parliaments: it is, however, by no means a close borough, an opposite party exists in the town in favour of Mr. Phillips, who was a candidate at the last election in 1812, when the numbers on the poll were,

For Lord Kensington 220—Mr. Phillips 98.

A compromise took place about five and twenty years since between Lord Kensington and Lord Milford, of Picton Castle, when it was agreed between these two noblemen that the former should upon his supporting invariably the interest of the latter in the county of Pembroke, receive a similar return from Lord Milford in the town of Haverfordwest. While this union subsists Lord Kensington will have the controlling influence in this place.

RADNORSHIRE.

RADNORSHIRE is a county of South Wales, bounded on the north by Montgomeryshire, on the east by Shropshire and Hereford, on the south and south-west by Brecknockshire, and on the north-west by Cardiganshire, being nearly triangular. Its greatest length is about 31 miles, and its breadth about 26, containing 326,400 acres of land, of which 85,000 are arable and 150,000 pasturage. tI contains one borough, New Radnor, and two other market-towns, Knighton and Presteigne. It is divided into six hundreds, viz. Colwyn, Kevenlys, Knighton, Paincastle, Radnor, and Rhiader, the whole containing 52 parishes, 3,675 houses, inhabited by 19,050 persons, viz. 9,347 males 9,703 females, of whom 889 were employed in trade and manufacture, and 8,620 in agriculture. The amount of assessment under the property tax in 1806, was 118,025*l.*; and the total amount of the poor's rates in 1803, 10,982*l.* being at the rate of 5*s.* 8¼*d.* in the pound. This county lies in the diocese of St. David's, and province of Canterbury. The assizes are held at Presteigne.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

This is one of the twelve Welch counties returning a knight to Parliament by virtue of the statute in the 27th Henry VIII. The memoirs

relating to its elections do not occur until since the restoration, of which we meet with the following.

Petitions, &c. May 6, 1678. Sir Thomas Meeres reported from the Committee of Privileges and Elections touching the election for this county, That Mr. Samuel Powell, by his letters and friends, his petition and claim might be dismissed; That Sir Thomas Littleton, at the desire of Mr. Powell withdrew the said Mr. Powell's petition, by the permission and consent of the committee: and that the committee resolved,

"That the petition and claim of Mr. Samuel Powell to be elected for this county, and the whole cause and question of return and election be totally dismissed: and the said committee were of opinion that Richard Williams, esq., be reported well elected, to serve in this Parliament as knight of the shire for this county: whereto the House agreed.

March 31, 1715. A petition of Thomas Harley, esq., complaining of an undue return of Richard Fowler, esq., by a combination of the said Rich. Fowler, Edward Fowler, esq., the high-sheriff, Mr. Wm. Chamberlain, under-sheriff, Mr. Matthew Davies, and other confederates, who by promises, threats, &c., endeavoured to influence the freeholders to vote for the said Richard Fowler, and stating that the said Mr. Harley, with several freeholders, demanded of the deputy-sheriff to proceed to election and return the petitioner who had the majority of votes, but he refused the same.

though it came not in within the time limited, be referred to the Committee of Elections.—No report.

March 20, 1678. A petition of Robert Deerham, esq., complaining of an undue return of Sir Edward Harley, by partiality of the bailiff, (who is not authorised to make the same,) and other illegal practices.

The clerk of the crown being called in, informed the House, that there was no return for this town affixed to the writ, but a return for the county only.

And one Mr. Ostland being called, informed the House that he had an indenture, which he was directed by the sheriff to affix to the writ; and that he had tendered it to the clerk of the crown; and the indenture being brought up to the table, ordered, "That the clerk of the crown do affix the precept and indenture to the writ for Radnor.

1679. A petition of Richard Deerham, esq., complaining of an undue return of Sir Edward Harley.

Resolved: "That the said petition be referred to the Committee of Privileges, &c.; but no report appears."

Jan. 23, 1688. A petition of William Probert, esq., complaining of an undue return of a burgess to serve in this present convention for this borough, was read.

March 28, 1689. Ordered: "That the matter touching the election of a burgess for this borough, upon the petition of William Probert, esq., be heard.

April 15. Sir Joseph Tredenham reported the matter upon the said petition as follows:

That for the petitioner the counsel opened it—That by the 27th and 35th of Henry VIII., all the burgesses, as well of the out-boroughs as of the shire-towns of Wales, (except for the town of Merioneth,) had a right to vote for a burgess of the shire-town; and that in the county of Radnor there were five borough towns, who had a right to vote for a burgess for this borough; and that the majority of burgesses of two of the out-boroughs, who heard by accident of the election, were for Mr. Probert; and that the rest of the out-boroughs, not having any notice of the day of election, did not appear; and called witnesses to prove the same.

For Mr. Williams it was admitted, that the out-burgesses had a right of election, but insisted that Mr. Williams had the majority; and a poll was never demanded; and called witnesses to the same effect.

The committee resolved, "That Richard Williams, esq., is duly elected:" which was agreed to by the House.

March 25, 1690. A petition of Robert Harley, esq., complaining of an undue return of Sir Rowland Gwynn, by partiality of the Bailiff.

Oct. 6. Another petition of Robert Harley, esq., shewing that the high-sheriff of the county of Radnor proceeded to the election about the 25th of February, but issued out no precept to the bailiff of this borough; so that the election for

this borough began not till the 17th of March, notwithstanding which unwarrantable practices, the petitioner was duly elected by the majority of legal qualified voices, but the bailiff had returned Sir Rowland Gwynn, in prejudice of the petitioner.

Nov. 12. Mr. Grey reported the matter upon the said petition; that the question between the petitioner and Sir Rowland Gwynn was concerning the right of election.

That the petitioner insisted that the right of election lies in the burgesses of Radnor, Rhayader, Knighton, Knucklas, and Kevenlice, only.

That the sitting member insisted, that Paines-castle and Presteigne had an equal right in electing with the said other towns.

That as the poll was taken, the numbers without Presteigne and Paine's-castle were thus: for Sir Rowland Gwynn 172—for Mr. Harley 173. But several others were excepted to, and taken off from Sir Rowland Gwynn's poll; and besides these, there were 34 of Paine's-castle and 45 of Presteigne, who voted for him.

To prove Paine's-castle and Presteigne had a right, the counsel insisted upon the statute of the 27th of Henry VIII., cap. 26., that said, "The burgesses' fees should be levied as well of the shire-towns as of other ancient boroughs within the same shire;" and the record of a return for this borough, wherein Presteigne and Norton were mentioned; also a copy of a record of an indenture of return, 30 Car. II., said to be made between the bailiff of the ancient borough of Paine's

castle and the bailiffs of other towns therein named.

But it was said by John Williams, aged 64, and by another, aged 82, that Williams had lived at Presteigne all his time, and the other had been town-clerk of this borough 20 years, and never knew any of Presteigne vote for Parliament men: thereupon the committee resolved:

"That the right of election of burgesses to serve in Parliament for this borough is in the burgesses of Radnor, Rhayader, Knighton, Knucklas and Kevenlice, only."

"That Sir Rowland Gwynn is not duly elected."

"That Robert Harley, esq., is duly elected:" whereto the House agreed, and ordered the return to be amended.

March 31, 1715. A petition of Edward Harley, esq., (commonly called Lord Harley,) complaining of an undue return of Thomas Lewis, esq., junior, who is not qualified, by partiality of Mr. Samuel Burton, bailiff of the said borough; and that the said bailiff, Thomas Lewis, senior, and William James, have pretended to make some hundreds of illegal burgesses, and polled them for Mr. Lewis, junior, declaring it was to exclude the petitioner.

March 6, 1716. Another petition of Edward Harley, esq., was read, the same in substance as before.

Both these petitions were ordered to be referred.

Dec. 4, 1717. Another petition of Edward Harley, esq., to the same effect as the former; and also complaining of menaces, bribery, and threats,

used to endeavour to influence the electors to give their votes against the petitioner.

Also ordered to be referred, but no report appears.

1728. A petition of John Verney, esq.; renewed second sessions.—No report.

1735. A petition of William, Viscount Bateman; renewed second sessions.—No report.

1741. A petition of the burgesses.—No report.

In 1761, there was a double return, Edward Lewis and Thomas Lewis, esqrs. The former informed the House that he did not mean to contest the matter, and the clerk of the crown was ordered to attend and erase his name, Nov. 28.

In 1768, Edward Lewis, esq., petitioned against the return of John Lewis esq., May 7, 1768, the petitioner was declared duly elected.

Glenbervie, vol. i. p. 317-377.

In 1774, Edward Lewis, esq., again petitioned against the return of John Lewis, esq. The chairman of the committee appointed to try this case informed the House that the petitioner was duly elected, and ought to have been returned.

In 1780, Edward Lewis and John Lewis, esqrs., were both returned, and the former petitioned. On the 31st of January, 1781, the committee found the petitioner duly elected.

John Lewis, esq., had been returned by the resident burgesses, but the determinations of the committees were in favour of the non-resident burgesses.

CORPORATION

Consists of a bailiff and 25 burgesses.

Radnor was an ancient borough, by prescription, till the reign of Queen Elizabeth, who granted it a charter, with many privileges, together with a manor, containing 11 townships and a jurisdiction, extending 10 or 12 miles. This town has also a court of pleas for all actions, without limitation.

RIGHT OF ELECTION.

Nov. 12, 1690. Is in the Burgesses of Radnor, Rhayader, Knighton, Knucklas, and Kevenlice, only.

March 7, 1769. The several persons, though they had no other claim to be burgesses of the boroughs of Rhayader and Knucklas than by virtue only of a presentment made in the pretended court-leet, holden under the authority of certain letters patent, which appear not to have been enrolled within the time expressly required by the said letters patent, in order to the validity thereof, ought not to have been admitted as legal voters at the last election.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—about 1,000.

RETURNING OFFICER—the Bailiff.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This town has been subject to various contests on the right of election. The question at issue has been, whether the word *Burgesses* meant such as were resident within the boroughs of New Radnor, Rhayader, Knighton, Knucklas, and Kevenlice, only, or whether it extended to those who did not reside within the said boroughs. Three petitions have been presented to the House since the passing of the Grenville Act, which have all originated

in this dispute. The first was that of Edward Lewis, esq., on the 6th of December, 1774, against the election of John Lewis, esq., who had been returned by the resident burgesses, which was determined on the 27th of January, 1775, in favour of the petitioner. The second was, in consequence of a double return of both these gentlemen at the ensuing general election in 1780, which, on the 31st of January, 1781, was likewise determined in favour of the non-resident burgesses; and the third arose out of a contest at the general election in 1790, when the Earl of Oxford, who was patron of this borough, thought proper to withdraw his countenance from Mr. Edward Lewis, the late member, and to support his relation David Murray, esq. Mr. Lewis, who had before experienced the influence of his lordship's patronage, and had twice succeeded by petition, on the claim of the non-resident burgesses, now became a candidate on that of the resident ones; when the numbers upon the poll were—for David Murray, esq. 609—Edward Lewis, esq. 313.

Mr. Murray was accordingly returned, and Mr. Lewis became a petitioner upon the same claim of right which he had formerly opposed, and against which he had twice succeeded by petition.

We presume this petition was not proceeded in, as we find no report upon it.

Richard Price, esq., of Knighton, has represented these boroughs in the five last Parliaments, since the patronage of the Earl of Oxford has declined.

PRESENT STATE

OF THE

REPRESENTATION

OF

SCOTLAND.

THE Report of the Committee of the Friends of the People, associated for the purpose of obtaining a reform of Parliament, contains such a correct and simple statement of the origin and present state of the representation of Scotland, that we find it necessary to introduce it as an authentic testimony of the ancient freedom of election in that part of the British empire.

It will not require any comment where the evidence is so complete, nor any apology where the authority is not to be impeached. To use their own words, "an unembellished detail of facts must be refuted before it can be shaken," and cannot fail to convince where interest or prejudice has not warped the mind.

The representation of the kingdom of Scotland, which contains two millions of inhabitants, is confined to the *tenants of the crown* in the several counties, to a corporation of *thirty-three* individuals in the city of Edinburgh, and to sixty-five delegates from the same number of self-elected corporations of the royal burghs of Scotland.

The whole number of electors in some of the shires does not exceed *nine*, and the whole constituent body of thirty-three counties, is no more than one thousand three hundred and sixty-eight, a number greatly inferior to that of the freeholders in the smallest county of England; while the number of representatives is only *one* more than is furnished from the rotten boroughs of Cornwall. We shall forbear to make any comment where the external evidence of defective representation is so glaring, as to set at defiance all sophistry, and impress conviction on the unprejudiced part of mankind; where the represented part of the community does not amount to a hundred in a hundred thousand, and where property, held in tenure from the crown and corporate bodies, deriving exclusive privileges from accident and intrigue, can alone exercise the rights of freemen.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

OF THE

FRIENDS OF THE PEOPLE.

"BEFORE your committee proceeds to the consideration of the important objects to which they conceive you chiefly intended to direct their attention, it may not be improper to mention a sort of representation which is peculiar to North Britain; which has an irresistible tendency to give to the crown an undue influence in the House of Lords, and which, by a more silent, but not less effectual operation, contributes equally to the same end in the other House of Parliament.

"At the union of the two kingdoms, in the beginning of this century, the peers of Scotland surrendered their hereditary right to seats in Parliament, and were limited to an elective representation by sixteen of their number. It is not the intention of your committee to enter at large into the history of their elections; it is sufficient to state, that it is universally known, that ever since the Union they have been considerably influenced by the ministers of the crown, which species of patronage has given them an undue preponderance in the popular branch of the legislature, by means which will be afterwards explained.

"Your committee having thus slightly touched on the state of the Scottish peerage, and only as it

has a reference to their immediate object, they will now endeavour to fulfil their duty by presenting to the Society a true and impartial account of the representation of the people of Scotland in the House of Commons.

"They will first establish, as they think, incontrovertibly,

1. That the constitution of the Scottish Parliament was originally popular and free.

2. That many laws which have been enacted for the regulation of elections, bear evident marks of the combined efforts of the crown and the aristocracy, to *narrow* the rights of election.

3. That each of these laws deprived the people of some right formerly enjoyed and exercised.

4. That by various fictions of law, contrary to the spirit of the British constitution, the right of election of members to serve in Parliament has been transmitted from those to whom it justly and naturally belonged, to others who had no right whatsoever.

5. That these grievances have been long and severely felt by the people, and that they have been often complained of, and that various statutes for their remedy have been vainly enacted, and successfully eluded.

6. That the system of representation in Scotland is now so confined and defective, that it has become a mere mockery upon the name or idea.

"Although the counties, cities, and burghs, labour under the same constitutional grievance, and suffer equally from the gradual deterioration

of their ancient condition, it will be necessary to consider their history separately, on account of the different modes in which their rights have been circumscribed, usurped, or destroyed.

COUNTIES.

"By the constitution of Scotland, the Parliament being the King's Court Baron, or *Curia Regis*, he could summon all his immediate tenants to attend him there. In those remote times, service in Parliament was not considered as a profitable privilege, but as a burthensome duty; and in the beginning of the fifteenth century, the system of representation was introduced for the ease and benefit of the vassals of tenants. Yet, until near the end of the sixteenth century, every freeholder, or tenant of the crown, was entitled to vote at elections, however small his property might be, which sufficiently proves the ancient popularity and freedom of the institution.

In the reign of James the Sixth of Scotland and First of England, (a monarch who was not distinguished by too great an attachment to the liberty of mankind,) the right of voting was first restricted to freeholders possessing lands of forty shillings of what was called "old extent;" that is of lands which were so rated in the cess or county-books about the end of the 13th or beginning of the 14th century. Your committee wish you to observe, that this was a great and fatal blow to popular election; for though forty shillings was made, *as in England*, the nominal standard of a vote, yet by

has a reference to their
will now endeavour to
senting to the Society a
of the representation o
the House of Comm

"They will first e
trovertibly,

1. That the con
ment was originall

2. That many
the regulation o
the combined e
cracy, to *narro*

3. That eac
of some right

4. That b
the spirit o
election o
been transm
naturally b
whatsoever

5. That
severely f
been often c
for their re
successfully

6. That
land is now
become a

"Altho
labour an
and suff

...n, by substituting lands worth
...hose worth 100 or 130*l.*
...ngement was not thought enough;
...l.. the modes of proving the exist-
...ld forty shilling votes were rendered
...t. by details with which your com-
...not trouble you; they will only state,
...gulations many of those votes have dis-
...nd that very few of them now remain.
...erto your committee have confined them-
... the statement of those evils which arise
... magnitude of the qualifications required
...tors, and their consequent paucity: they
... yet supposed that this precious right is exer-
...d by the real proprietors of the soil, under
...tain grievous and improper limitations; but
...ey are now to describe mischiefs of another na-
ture, which have been suffered to grow up, which have been fondly fostered in the bosom of kingly and aristocratic power, and which have totally perverted, and completely overturned, the real representation of the counties.

"By the Act of Charles II., 1681., the foundation was laid for the intolerable abuses which now exist, and which certainly were never contemplated or foreseen by that Parliament. It was then enacted, that the right of voting should be in persons publicly infeoffed in *property* or *superiority* of lands of forty shillings old extent, or 400*l.* Scots valued rent; thus making the distinction, and drawing the line, between *property* and ...*rity*. It is necessary to explain this t... ...*iority*, because from an abuse of it th... ...ievances in the

elections for knights of the shire in Scotland have arisen.

"The feudal law supposes the king to be the sole proprietor of all the lands in the kingdom: from him his vassals hold by charter; in like manner his vassals may grant lands to be held from them by charter; these sub-vassals may repeat the same operation *ad infinitum;* but the original or *immediate* vassal of the king, has the sole right of voting or being elected to serve in Parliament. From this system the following consequences have flowed:

1. "Proprietors of estates, of whatsoever value, who hold from a subject, are not entitled to vote, or to be elected. It is computed, that in several counties, nearly one half the lands are held in this manner from subjects superior: over the whole kingdom it is believed, that one fifth of the lands are so held, therefore the proprietors of one fifth of the landed property, as far as that property operates, are deprived of any voice in the choosing their representatives.

2. "In this class of landholders, so excluded from this invaluable franchise, are men of estates worth from 500*l.* to 2,000*l. per annum;* but what is more to be lamented, it comprehends the best and most virtuous parts of the community; namely, the middling and smaller gentry, and the industrious yeomen and farmers, who have inherited or acquired some landed property.

3. "Many persons without the smallest interest in the land, possess the right of voting and of being elected.

4. " It is a principle in the constitution, that no man shall have more than one vote in the same county in his own person; and it is another principle, that no peer of the realm shall have any vote at all in the election of members to serve in the House of Commons.

" By an ingenious device of the lawyers, these two fundamental principles have been eluded: when a person of great property wishes to multiply his votes, he surrenders his charter to the crown; he appoints a number of confidential friends to whom the crown parcels out his estates in lots of 400*l.*, Scots valued rent: then he takes charters from these friends for the real property, thus leaving them apparently the immediate tenants of the crown, and consequently all entitled to vote or to be elected. This operation is equally open to peers and great commoners, who have availed themselves of it accordingly; the peers thus acquiring an influence from which they are excluded by the spirit and forms of the constitution; and the great commoners extending and multiplying a right in an undue and fraudulent manner, thereby depreciating or extinguishing the franchises of the smaller proprietors, with great and manifest prejudice to the general liberty of the country.

" This legal fraud began in this century, and has been chiefly practised during the present reign; it therefore derives no shelter or sanction from custom, which the folly of men allows to cover a multitude of glaring abuses. Your committee will not dwell on the various modes by which it has been performed: they will briefly state, that

the common methods have been by life rent, charters, charters on wadset or mortgage, and charters in fee.

"The legislature has not been blind to these mischievous innovations; nor has it been inactive in endeavouring to resist and prevent them. It has admitted that these delusive surrenders of charters and consequent creations of nominal and fictitious votes, are fraudulent in fact and principle; and it has been decreed, that wherever they can be detected, they shall be illegal and void. Several laws have been passed for the prevention of such proceedings, and for the detection of such crimes. Oaths have been enacted to be taken by freeholders, claiming to poll at elections, couched in the strongest terms, and providing as many guards as the zeal and wisdom of the legislature could invent; but all these precautions have been constantly defeated by the ingenuity of the learned profession, who have always succeeded in finding salvos for weak consciences. Gentlemen of the fairest characters, nay clergymen, have been induced by subtle explanations and the nicest verbal subterfuges, to take these oaths contrary to the evident intendment of the legislature, contrary to the received meaning and usage of our language, and in defiance of the general sense of their country.

"Your committee refer you to the acts, 12 Anne, cap. 6, and 7: George II. cap. 18, not only for the terms of the oaths, but for the purpose and meaning of the laws.

"The court of session in Scotland have been

remarkably unfortunate in their endeavours to give effect to these laws. Being composed of fifteen judges, and the sentences being decided by the majority actually present, it has necessarily happened, that from the diversity of opinions naturally incident to mankind, the decisions of the court have frequently varied, according to the absence or attendance of the several lords; and the same points at issue have often undergone very different and opposite determinations. Nor has the situation of the subject been much bettered by the appeal to the House of Peers; for very contrary systems concerning these election laws have been maintained and carried into effect by the highest authority in that final judicature. What was law one day, and under the direction of one judge, was not law another day, and under another judge: and thus from the double uncertainty of the manner in which the majorities on the Scottish bench might decide, and of the varying opinions of the high legal characters in England, men have had no security, and have been doomed to suffer *incertum jus, summam injuriam*. It may not be wrong to state, that not less than six hundred lawsuits have taken place within these twenty years, on this subject of county elections, which, with the attendant legal operations, have cost above a million of pounds sterling.

"The parliamentary representation of the counties in Scotland has, therefore, according to the expression of a noble lord, high in the law, "completely slid from its basis." Much undue influence has been acquired by the crown, the nobility,

and the great proprietors; the laws have been eluded and perverted; the number of electors has been greatly diminished; and the constitutional rights of the subject have been invaded, usurped, or annihilated.

"By table, No. 1, which is annexed, it will be seen, that in two of the counties, there are only three real voters in each; in seven, not more than ten: in all of them, respectively, very few. The total number of real voters in the whole is 1,390: total of false, nominal, and fictitious voters, 1,201: and thirty-three counties return only thirty members, six having only the right of sending a member to every second Parliament."

CITIES AND BURGHS.

"By the ancient and original constitution of the cities and burghs, the magistrates and town councils *were chosen by the* resident burgesses and proprietors *of houses and lands:* this, however, was a state of freedom, too incompatible with the proud and narrow views of the kings and nobility, who, constantly in hostility with each other, agreed in nothing but degrading and oppressing the people. By an act passed in 1469, the town councils were invested with the power of electing their successors; and in 1474, it was ordained that four persons of the old, should be annually chosen into the new town councils. By these laws, as far as they were effectual, the burgesses and inhabitants at large were disfranchised; they had no longer any control over their magistrates; and the corporations became self-elected juntos,

totally separated in interest from their former constituents and fellow citizens.

"Every city or burgh had certain estates in land, houses, fisheries, port duties, and other valuable sorts of property; the revenue arising from which, was, by their original charters and constitutions, destined to be applied for the benefit of their communities; but as soon as the magistrates and councils acquired the power of electing themselves in perpetuity, they administered, embezzled, and delapidated these estates at their pleasure.

"This subject is now before Parliament; and a great body of evidence has been compiled, which will soon be published, and which will throw very great light on the ancient state of the Scottish burghs. Your committee, however, have thought proper to mention it as one great branch of the encroachment on former rights.

"It is absolutely necessary to state, that these unjust acts of 1469, and 1474, have been so detested by the people, and so much resisted in practice, that they have never been completely executed in any one place: in many of the burghs, the burgesses continued for a long period to elect their own magistrates; and several charters have been granted, as low down as the end of the last century, conferring the right of election on the burgesses. These acts, then, on which the present system is founded, have not the sanction derived from the submission, consent, or reverence of the people; and their appeal would not

be an innovation, but a restoration of ancient rights and privileges.

"If the cities and burghs had suffered in their common property only, by these tyrannical laws, they would have been comparatively fortunate; but as their representatives in Parliament were to be chosen by the magistrates and councils, when they lost the right of electing them, they lost all share in the choice of their legislators; and in this unhappy situation they find themselves at this day.

"At the union, Edinburgh, being the capital, alone retained the right of sending one member to Parliament. All the other towns were thrown into districts of fours and fives, each district being allowed to send one member. This induced a regulation which still more sensibly wounded the freedom of election. By it every burgh now elects a delegate; these delegates meet by rotation at each of the towns to elect the representative. The place where they meet is called the presiding burgh for that election, and its delegate has a casting vote in case of an equality of voices. The burghs have no control on their delegates; they must trust entirely to honour for the return of the person by whom they wish to be represented: and there *have* been instances where the delegates have corruptly betrayed their trust, and have acted contrary to the desire and expectation of their constituents.

"Another evil, deeply felt by the great commercial towns, is their being classed with insigni-

ficant and obscure burghs; among many instances of this, it will be sufficient to mention Glasgow, which is known to be one of the most opulent trading cities of Great Britain. Its number of inhabitants exceeds 77,000; its delegate is chosen by thirty-two persons, who are self-elected: and this delegate has only one voice of four in the choice of a member of Parliament, in common with the delegates of three little towns, the inhabitants of which are not more than 2,000.

"By table, No. 2, it appears that of fifteen members for the cities and burghs, one for Edinburgh is chosen by thirty-three persons: the other fourteen by sixty-five delegates, who are elected by 1,220 persons.

"The inhabitants of Scotland are above two millions; their representatives are chosen by 2,643; Scotland sends forty-five members; a single county in England, namely Cornwall, sends forty-four.

"Your committee will now conclude: they have endeavoured to be as brief as possible, and to confine themselves strictly to the most material facts. Volumes might have been written on the matter which has presented itself to their observation: but they hope with deference to the judgment of the society, that they have more truly executed the task which they undertook by compressing, than by expanding the subject.

No. I.

Table, &c. of Number of Electors in the Counties, &c.

	1788. Nominal.	1812 Real and nominal.	Valued rent of each shire of Scotland, Scots money.		
			L.	s.	d.
1 Aberdeen	96	145	235,665	8	11
2 Argyll	21	52	149,595	10	0
3 Ayr	119	147	191,605	0	7
4 Banff	15	34	79,200	0	0
5 Berwick	87	124	178,365	7	3
6 Dunbarton	51	43	33,327	19	0
7 Dumfries	11	72	287,941	3	4
8 Edinburgh, or Mid Lothian	10	34	191,054	3	9
9 Fife	32	216	362,584	7	5
10 Forfar, or Angus	24	114	171,519	15	7
11 Haddington, or East Lothian	13	76	168,878	5	10
12 Inverness	83	55	73,188	9	0
13 Kincardine	6	74	74,921	1	0
14 Kirkcudbright	72	137	114,571	19	3
15 Lanerk	69	98	160,000	0	0
16 Linlithgow, or West Lothian	18	71	74,931	19	2
17 Moray, or Elgin	53	33	65,603	0	5
18 Orkney	21	29	56,551	9	1
19 Peebles	5	42	51,937	13	10
20 Perth	19	184	335,000	0	0
21 Renfrew	82	78	68,076	15	2
22 Ross	33	70	75,040	10	3
23 Roxburgh	49	143	315,594	14	6
24 Selkirk	13	38	80,307	15	6
25 Stirling	30	103	108,518	8	9
26 Sutherland	23	26	26,193	9	9
27 Wigton	34	50	65,338	7	8
The following six shires elect a member alternately. At the last election the shires of Bute, Clackmannan, and Nairn, returned a member to Parliament. At the next election, the shires of Caithness, Kinross, and Cromarty, will return a member to Parliament; that is, Caithness alternately with Bute, Clackmannan with Kinross, and Nairn with Cromarty. At the last general election in 1812,					
28 Bute	9	18	15,022	13	8
29 Clackmannan	11	23	26,482	10	10
30 Nairn	14	25	15,162	10	11
	1201	2354	3,802,180	10	5
To return next Election:					
31 Caithness	1	24	37,256	2	10
32 Cromarty	16	11	12,897	2	8
33 Kinross	7	16	20,192	11	2
	1235	2405	3,872,563	0	1

No. II.

Table of the Number of Electors of the Royal Burghs.

	Number of town-council who choose each one delegate.		Number of delegates in each district who choose the member of Parliament.
1	Edinburgh City	33	
2	Dinwall	15	5
	Dornock	15	
	Wick	12	
	Kirkwall	23	
	Tain	17	
3	Fortrose	15	4
	Inverness	21	
	Nairn	19	
	Forres	17	
4	Elgin	17	5
	Banff	17	
	Cullen	26	
	Kintore	9	
	Inverarie	9	
5	Aberdeen	19	5
	Montrose	21	
	Brechin	13	
	Aberbrothock	19	
	Inverbervie	15	
6	Perth	26	5
	Dundee	29	
	St. Andrew's	29	
	Cupar	31	
	Forfar	19	
7	Crail	21	5
	Kilrenny	13	
	Anstruther W.	15	
	Anstruther E.	19	
	Pittenweem	24	
8	Kinghorn	22	4
	Dysart	24	
	Kirkaldy	21	
	Burntisland	22	
9	Stirling	21	5
	Inverkeithing	15	
	Dumfermline	26	
	Culross	19	
	Queensferry	21	
10	Rutherglen	19	4
	Glasgow	32	
	Renfrew	21	
	Dumbarton	15	
11	Jedburgh	25	5
	Dunbar	20	
	North Berwick	12	
	Lauder	17	
	Haddington	25	
12	Peebles	17	4
	Linlithgow	27	
	Selkirk	33	
	Lanerk	17	
13	Dumfries	25	5
	Kirkcudbright	17	
	Annan	21	
	Lochmaben	15	
	Sanquehar	17	
14	Whithorn	19	4
	New Galloway	20	
	Stranraer	18	
	Wigton	18	
15	Irwine	17	5
	Rothsay	19	
	Inverary	13	
	Cambelltown	17	
	Ayr	17	
		1220	65

In Edinburgh 33 persons elect one member of Parliament. In each of the other 14 districts the respective town-councils nominate one delegate each, and by the majority of these delegates in each district the member of Parliament is elected.

Thus, in Edinburgh - -	33	persons elect	1 member.
In the other districts 1,220 choose	65	persons, who elect	14 members.
So that ultimately in the burghs	98	persons elect	15 members.

STATE

OF THE

SEVERAL COUNTIES OF SCOTLAND.

THE counties and boroughs of Scotland send 45 members to the Imperial Parliament. The representation of this kingdom, though containing two millions of inhabitants is confined to the *Tenants of the Crown* in the several counties, who bear an exact resemblance to the burgage-tenure boroughs in England. In the city of Edinburgh thirty-three individuals elect the member, and sixty-five delegates from the same number of self-elected corporations of the royal boroughs return the remaining fourteen members. The whole constituent body of thirty-three counties amount to no more than two thousand four hundred and five, real and nominal electors, nearly one half of whom are of the latter fictitious description.

ABERDEENSHIRE.

THIS shire contains three royal boroughs, Aberdeen, Kintore, and Inverary; and several large and handsome towns, as Peterhead, Fraserburgh,

Huntly, and Old Meldrum. It is divided into 85 parishes, containing 25,249 houses, inhabited by 123,082 persons.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. 1707. Alexander Redney, esq., petitioned; renewed sessions 2.

On the return of William, Lord Haddo, (son of the Earl of Aberdeen,) in 1708, there was a petition of Alexander Irwin of Drum, Alexander Gordon of Pitlurg, Thomas Erskine of Pittodry, and James Moir of Stonywood, barons and freeholders of the shire of Aberdeen, in behalf of themselves and others, having a right to vote in elections for members of Parliament, and to be legally represented in the House of Commons of Great Britain, complaining of the eldest sons of peers, who were peers of Scotland before the Union, being chosen to serve in the House of Commons of Great Britain for that part called Scotland. On the 3d of December, the House proceeded to take into consideration that part of the act for uniting the two kingdoms which relates to election of members to serve for Scotland; and the counsel were called in, and the petitions and representations relating to that matter were again read: and after the counsel had been heard, they withdrew; and the question being put, That the eldest sons of the peers of Scotland were capable, by the laws of Scotland at the time of the Union, to elect or be elected to represent any shire or borough in Scotland to sit in the House of Commons of Great Britain, it passed in the negative; in consequence of which, Lord

Haddo was declared incapable of sitting in the House, and a writ was ordered for a new election.

May 22, 1732. Sir Archibald Grant, bart., was expelled the House on account of the Charitable Corporation.

In 1735, Alexander Fraser, esq., petitioned against the return of Sir Arthur Forbes, knt., and bart.

In 1806, Alexander Hay, esq., petitioned against Mr. Ferguson's election.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 96
Total 145

PATRON—Duke of Gordon.

ARGYLESHIRE

CONTAINS two royal boroughs, 49 parishes, 14,100 houses, and 76,850 inhabitants, being 35,738 males and 41,112 females, of whom 4,196 were returned employed in trade, and 19,200 in agriculture.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 21
Total 52

PATRON—Duke of Argyll.

AYRSHIRE

Is about 65 miles long and 36 broad: contains two royal boroughs, Ayr and Irvine, 45 parishes,

having 13,603 houses and 84,306 inhabitants, being 39,666 males and 44,640 females. This county gave birth to the famous Sir William Wallace, in the reign of Alexander III., who, after fighting gloriously for his country, was at length betrayed into the hands of the English by one Monteith, while asleep in his house at Glasgow, and most cruelly executed in 1305.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1735, Charles Cochrane, esq., petitioned against the return of Brigadier-General James Campbell; renewed sessions 2d and 3d.—No report.

1741. General James Campbell petitioned against the return of Patrick Crawford, esq.; renewed sessions 2.

1780. Sir Adam Ferguson, bart., petitioned against the election of Hugh Montgomery, esq. On April 2, 1781, the chairman of the committee that tried this contested election reported to the House that the petitioner was duly elected, and ought to have been returned. The return amended accordingly.

In 1796, William Fullarton, esq., petitioned, but afterwards withdrawn.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 119
Total 147

PATRON—Earl of Eglintoun.

BANFFSHIRE

CONTAINS 7,789 houses and 35,807 inhabitants, being 16,067 males and 19,740 females, of whom 4,890 were returned employed in various trades and manufactures, and 11,177 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1735, Archibald Ogilvie, esq., petitioned against the return of James Abercrombie, esq.—No report.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 15
Total 34

PATRON—Baroness Abercromby.

BERWICKSHIRE

Is about 34 miles long and 19 broad, and contains 6,173 houses, and 30,621 inhabitants, being 14,294 males, and 16,327 females, of whom 3,343 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture, and 6,396 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1735, Sir John Stewart, bart., petitioned against the return of A. R. Campbell, esq.; renewed sessions 2d and 3rd.—No report.

In 1741, there was a double return, viz. Sir

John St. Clair, bart., and A. H. Campbell, esq. The latter was declared duly elected.

In 1780, Sir John Patterson, bart., petitioned against the return of Hugh Scott, esq. The chairman of the committee reported it a void election, and Mr. Scott was again returned.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 87
Total 124

PATRONS—Earl of Home, and Mr. Home of Wedderburne.

BUTE AND CAITHNESS.

BUTESHIRE

CONTAINS 1,911 houses, and 11,791 inhabitants, of whom 4,821 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 9
Total 18

PATRON—Marquis of Bute.

CAITHNESS-SHIRE

CONTAINS 10 parishes, in which are 4,433 houses, and 22,609 inhabitants, of whom 2,201 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

The shires of Bute and Caithness alternately send a member to Parliament.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1728, John Sinclair, esq., petitioned; renewed sessions 2d and 3rd—No report.

1741. Patrick Dunbar, esq., petitioned.—No report.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 11
Total 24

PATRON—Sir John Sinclair, bart.

CLACKMANNAN AND KINROSS.

CLACKMANNANSHIRE

CONTAINS 2,100 houses and 10,858 inhabitants, of whom 1,037 were returned as being employed in trade, and 872 in agriculture.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 11
Total 23

PATRON—Baroness Abercromby.

KINROSS-SHIRE

CONTAINS seven parishes, 1,372 houses, inhabited by 6,725 persons, viz. 2,116 males, and 3,609 females, of whom 888 were returned as be-

ing employed in various trades and manufactures, and 667 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

The shires of Clackmannan and Kinross send a member to Parliament by turns.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1710, Lieut.-Gen. Charles Rosse petitioned against the return of Mungo Graham, esq., who was found not duly elected. His seat was taken by Sir John Malcolm, bart.

In 1715, James Murray, esq., petitioned against the return of Wm. Douglas, esq.—Withdrew his petition.

1735, Sir John Shaw, bart., petitioned against the return of James Erskine, esq.; renewed sessions 2.—No report.

1741, Alexander Bruce, esq., petitioned against the return of Sir John Bruce Hope, bart.—Petition withdrawn.

In 1774, James Francis Erskine, esq.; petitioned against the return of Ralph Abercromby, jun. esq. for Clackmannan. A committee was appointed April 5, 1775. The petition stated, that the sitting member *was absolutely disqualified and ineligible*. On the 7th of April the committee determined the sitting member duly elected. Glenvervie, v. iii. p. 345, 358.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 17
Total 16

PATRON—Thomas Graham, esq.

CROMARTY AND NAIRN.

CROMARTYSHIRE

CONTAINS 1,000 houses, and 5,390 inhabitants.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 6
Total 11

PATRON—Henry Davidson, esq.

NAIRNSHIRE

CONTAINS 1,940 houses, inhabited by 8,257 persons, viz. 3,639 males, and 4,618 females, of whom 898 were employed in various trades and manufacture, and 2,901 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

These counties are represented alternately.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1735, James Brodie, esq., petitioned against the return of Alexander Brodie, esq.; renewed in sessions 2.

1741. George Mackenzie, esq., petitioned against the return of Sir William Gordon, bart.—No report.

1784. Cosmo Gordon, esq., and certain freeholders of the county of Nairn (in favor of George Campbell, esq.,) petitioned against the return of Alexander Brodie, esq.

April 3, 1786. The chairman of the committee informed the House, that the sitting member was duly elected.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 14
Total 25

PATRON—Lord Cawdor.

DUMFRIESSHIRE

COMPRISES three districts, viz. Annandale, Eskdale, and Nithsdale: is about 60 miles long, and 30 broad, and contains four royal boroughs, Annan, Dumfries, Sanquhar, and Lochmaber, and 42 parishes; containing 10,785 houses, and 54,547 inhabitants, being 25,407 males and 29,190 females, of whom 6,317 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture, and 10,691 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1708, William Grierson, esq., petitioned against James Lord Johnston: he withdrew his petition; but a new writ was notwithstanding ordered, in consequence of the sitting member being declared incapable of sitting in the House on account of his being the eldest son of a Peer of Scotland.

The petitioner took his seat.

Feb. 13, 1711. William Grierson, esq., was declared not duly elected.

Resolved, "That Homer Maxwell and others, who were infeoffed of estates redeemable upon the paying a Rose Noble, have not a right to vote."

1714. James Murray, esq., petitioned against the return of Sir William Johnston, but the merits of his election not having been decided, Sir William Johnston sat all this Parliament, both for this county and the boroughs of Dumfries, &c.

1735. Alexander Ferguson, esq., petitioned against the return of Charles Erskine, esq.—Petition withdrawn.

1741. Matthew Sharp, esq., petitioned against the return of Sir John Douglas, bart.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 11
Total 72

PATRONS—Duke of Buccleugh, Marquis of Queensbury, and Earl of Hopetoun.

DUNBARTONSHIRE

Is about 40 miles long, and 23 broad; containing 12 parishes, 3,375 houses, inhabited by 20,710 persons, being 9,796 males, and 10,914 females, of whom 7,952 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture, and 4,633 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1722, John Campbell, esq., petitioned against the return of Mungo Haldane, esq. The petition was renewed the 2d and 3rd session.

Resolved, Jan. 23, 1725, "That the splitting of interests in undivided shares of lands is contrary to the act in Scotland, *anno* 1681; that the purchasers of such undivided part be disqualified from voting, and that the petitioner was duly elected.

1780. The Hon. George Keith Elphinstone, petitioned against the return of Lord Frederick Campbell.

Feb. 14, 1781. The chairman of the committee

appointed to try this election reported to the House, that the petitioner was duly elected, and ought to have been returned. The return amended accordingly.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 51
Total 43

PATRON—Duke of Montrose.

EDINBURGH COUNTY, *or* MIDLOTHIAN,

Is about 30 miles long and 20 broad, and containing about 230,400 acres of land. It is divided into 21 parishes, wherein are included 17,111 houses, inhabited by 122,954 persons, being 54,224 males and 68,730 females, of whom 21,036 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture, and 7,758 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. 1722. John Baird, esq., petitioned against the return of Robert Dundas, esq. Petition withdrawn.

1744. Several electors petitioned against the election of Sir Charles Gilmore, bart., but he was voted duly elected.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 10
Total 34

PATRON—Duke of Buccleugh.

ELGIN COUNTY, MORAY PROPER, *or* MURRAY,

Is about 42 miles long and 20 broad, and contains two royal boroughs Elgin and Forres, 18 parishes, and several considerable towns, the whole containing 5,992 houses, inhabited by 26,705 persons, viz. 11,763 males and 14,942 females, of whom 4,410 were employed in trade, handicraft, and manufacture, and 8,131 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. 1708. Sir Harrie Innes petitioned against the return of Robert Urquhart, jun., esq.—No report.

In 1784, Alexander Penrose Cumming, esq., and certain freeholders in his interest, petitioned against the election of the Rt. Hon. James, Earl of Fife, of the Kingdom of Ireland.

1785. The chairman of the committee reported the sitting member duly elected.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 53
Total 33

PATRON—Earl of Seafield.

FIFESHIRE

Is about 60 miles long and 18 broad; containing 480 square miles, 17,065 houses, inhabited by

93,743 persons, of whom 17,300 were returned as being employed in trade, handicraft, and manufacture, and 9,651 in agriculture. It contains 13 royal boroughs, viz. Cupar, St Andrew's, Inverkeithing, Dumferline, Burnt island, Kinghorn, Kirkcaldy, Dysart, Pittenween, Anstruther, Easter and Wester Kilrenny, and Crail; and 63 parishes.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. 1708. Sir John Anstruther, bart., petitioned against the return of Pat. Moncrief, jun., esq.—Petition withdrawn.

In 1776, John Henderson, esq., petitioned against the return of James Townshend Oswald, esq. Glenbervie, v. iv. p. 179-26.

March 22. The chairman of the committee informed the House that the sitting member was duly elected.

1779. J. T. Oswald, esq., having been made auditor of the exchequer of Scotland, a new writ was ordered June 2, when Robert Skene, esq., was chosen. John Henderson, esq., petitioned against his return on the score that the sitting member held an office created since the year 1704. The petition was renewed the following session.

Feb. 7, 1780. The chairman of the committee appointed to try this contested election reported to the House, "That the sitting member was not eligible to be elected, on account of his holding an office created since the year 1704, and that the petitioner was duly elected, and ought to have been returned." The return amended accord-

ingly. Robert Skene, esq., sat afterwards in 1780, till his death, 1787.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 32
Total 216

PATRON—General Wemyss.

FORFARSHIRE, *or* ANGUSSHIRE

Is about 50 miles long and 20 broad.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1715, John Carnigie, esq., who sat in the three preceding Parliaments for this county, was expelled the House for being in open rebellion, and a new writ ordered June 22.

1728. Alexander Duncan, esq., petitioned against the return of James Scott, jun., esq.; renewed 2d and 3rd sessions.—No report.

1735. James Carnegie, esq., petitioned against the return of Thomas Lyon, esq.—Petition withdrawn.

1782. Sir David Carnigie, bart., petitioned against the return of Archibald Douglas, esq., he being ineligible, as in fact, he was a British peer as heir to the Earldom of Angus.

April 23. The committee reported the sitting member eligible, and duly elected.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 24
Total 114

PATRON—Hon. William Maule.

HADDINGTONSHIRE, *or* EAST LOTHIAN

Is divided into 24 parochial districts, which contain 5,851 houses, inhabited by 29,986 persons, viz. 13,890 males, and 16,096 females, of whom 3,224 were returned as being chiefly employed in trade and manufacture, and 5,346 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

We do not find any petition concerning the election of any member for this county.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 13
Total 76

PATRON—Earl of Hopetoun.

INVERNESSHIRE

COMPREHENDS the districts of Badenoch, Lochaber, and Glenelg, subdivided into 31 parochial districts; containing 14,357 houses inhabited by 74,292 persons, viz, 33,801 males and 40,491 females, of whom 3,864 were returned as being employed in various trades and manufactures, and 34,068 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

We do not find any memoirs of any petitions concerning the election of any member for this county.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 83
Total 55

PATRON—Charles Grant, esq.

KINCARDINESHIRE

CONTAINS 5,688 houses, inhabited by 26,349 persons, viz. 12,104 males and 14,245 females, of whom 6,023 were returned as employed in various trades, handicrafts, and manufactures, and 7,924 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1735, John Scott, esq., petitioned against the return of John Falconer, esq., renewed the 2d, 3rd, and 4th sessions.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 6
Total 74

PATRON—Mr. Barclay of Urie.

KIRCKCUDBRIGHT STEWARTRY

CONTAINS two royal boroughs, Kirckcudbright and new Galloway, and several considerable villages; is divided into 28 parishes, containing 5,600 houses, inhabited by 29,211 persons, viz. 13,619 males and 15,592 females, of whom 2,532 were employed in various trades, and 5,856 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. 1714. John Greirson, esq., petitioned against the return of Sir John Stuart, bart.—No report.

1735. Thomas Murdoch, esq., petitioned against the return of Patrick Heron, esq.; renewed 2d session.—No report,

1741. William Stewart, esq., petitioned against the return of Basil Hamilton, esq.—No report.

1780. John Gordon, esq., petitioned against the return of Peter Johnstone, esqr. On the 5th of March, 1781, the chairman of the committee reported to the House that it was a void election.

John Gordon, esq., having been returned in 1781, P. Johnstone, esq., and several of the inhabitants, petitioned. Feb. 6, 1782, the chairman of the committee reported to the House that Peter Johnstone, esq., the petitioner, was duly elected, and ought to have been returned. The return amended accordingly.

Nov. 25, 1805, the Hon. Montgomery Granville John Stewart, petitioned against the return of Patrick Heron, esq. The committee was appointed on May 5, 1803. On the 10th, the petitioner was declared duly elected, and ought to have been returned. The return amended. Peckwell, v. i. p. 439.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 72
Total 137

PATRON—Earl of Galloway.

LANARKSHIRE

Is about 47 miles long and 30 broad, containing about 870 square miles, or 556,800 acres. It is divided into three wards; the upper, the middle, and lower wards.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1715, Sir James Stewart, bart., petitioned against the return of Lord Archibald Hamilton.—No report.

1722. Sir James Stewart, bart, again petitioned against Lord Archibald Hamilton; renewed the 2d sessions.—No report.

1774. Daniel Campbell, esq., petitioned against the return of Andrew Stuart, esq.

April 10, 1775. The chairman of the committee that tried this contested election, reported to the House, that the sitting member was duly elected.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 69
Total 98

PATRON—Duke of Hamilton.

LINLITHGOWSHIRE, *or* WEST LOTHIAN,

Is about 20 miles long, and contains 2,796 houses and 17,844 inhabitants, viz. 8,829 males and 9,715 females, of whom 3,829 were employed in various trades and manufactures, and 4,166 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1708, James, Lord Johnston, eldest son of the Marquis of Annandale, was declared incapable of being elected, on account of his being the eldest son of a Peer of Scotland.

1722. Sir James Cunninghame, bart., petitioned against the return of George Dundas, esq.; renewed in 2d, 3rd, and 4th sessions, and the sitting member voted duly elected.

1735. Sir James Cunninghame petitioned against the return of Alexander Hamilton, esq.; renewed 2d, 3rd, 4th, and 5th sessions.

In 1768, James Dundas, esq., petitioned against John Hope, esq. The petition was renewed the 2d session; and March 27, 1770, the chairman of the committee reported, that the petitioner was duly elected, and ought to have been returned. The return amended accordingly.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 18
Total 71

PATRON—Earl of Hopetoun.

ORKNEY *and* SHETLAND STEWARTRY

CONTAINS 4,475 houses, inhabited by 24,445 persons, viz. 10,848 males and 13,597 females, of whom 2,370 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture, and 14,586 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

The early accounts of these isles are involved in fable. According to Ossian, the Orkneys were a distinct kingdom, having powerful monarchs of their own.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1722, James Moodie, esq., petitioned against the return of Colonel George Douglas.—No report.

1768, Patrick Honyman, esq., petitioned against the return of Sir James Douglas, knt.

Petition withdrawn.

In 1780, Charles Dundas, esq., petitioned against Robert Baikie, esq. Feb. 12, 1781, the chairman of the committee appointed to try this contested election reported to the House, that the

petitioner was duly elected, and ought to have been returned. The return amended accordingly.

Fraser, v. ii. p. 369.

In 1790, Thomas Dundas, esq., and certain freeholders in his interest, petitioned against the return of John Balfour, esq. On April 21, 1791, the chairman of the committee informed the House that the sitting member was duly elected; that the petition of T. Dundas, esq., appeared frivolous but not vexatious, and that the petition of the freeholders did not appear frivolous or vexatious.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 21

PATRONS—Lord Dundas and Sir William Honeyman.

Total 29

PEEBLES COUNTY

CONTAINS one royal borough, Peebles, and is divided into 16 parochial districts, the whole containing 1,680 houses, inhabited by 8,735 persons, viz. 4,160 males and 4,575 females, of whom 886 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture, and 2,013 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. 1710. William Morrison, esq., petitioned against the return of Alex. Murray, esq.

1732. Sir James Nasmyth petitioned against John Douglas, esq.; renewed 2d session.

Sir Alexander Murray petitioned against the return of Sir James Nasmyth, bart., and Sir James was voted duly elected.

1735. Double return, viz. Sir James Nasmyth, and Sir Alexander Murray, barts.; the latter waved his return.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 5
Total 42

PATRON—Sir Hugh Montgomery.

PERTHSHIRE.

THIS county contains 23,382 houses, inhabited by 126,366 persons, viz. 58,808 males and 67,558 females, of whom 22,773 were returned as being employed in trade, manufacture, and handicraft, and 24,404 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1708, John Haldane, esq., petitioned.—Withdrawn.

1715. Sir Harry Stirling, bart., petitioned.—No report.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 19
Total 184

PATRON—Duke of Athol.

RENFREWSHIRE

CONTAINS 17 parochial districts, one royal burgh, Renfrew, and several large towns, as Paisley, Greenock, and Port Glasgow, besides a number of populous villages, the whole containing 7,857 houses and 78,058 inhabitants, viz. 36,068 males,

and 41,988 females, of whom 21,746 were returned as being employed in various trades, handicrafts, and manufactures, and 3,894 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1722, Sir Robert Pollock, bart., petitioned against the return of Major Thomas Cochrane: renewed 2d and 3rd sessions.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 82
Total 78

PATRON—Sir Michael Shaw Stewart.

ROSS-SHIRE

Is nearly 80 miles in length, and about the same number in breadth; containing three royal boroughs, Dingwall, Tain, Rosemarkie, and divided into 30 parochial districts, containing 11,014 houses, and 52,291 inhabitants, viz. 24,143 males, and 28,148 females, of whom 4,589 were returned as being employed in various trades, and 23,097 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1708, George Ross, esq., petitioned against Hugh Ross, jun. esq. Resolved, Jan. 28, 1709, "That there ought to have been twelve days exclusive between the day of election, and the day appointed by writ of summons; that Hugh Ross, jun. esq., is not duly elected, and that a new writ ought to be issued."

Charles Ross, esq., was afterwards returned, against whom Sir James Mackenzie, bart., petitioned, March 29, 1710.

1722. Charles Ross, esq., petitioned against the return of Alexander Urquhart, esq.—No report.

1741. Hugh Ross, esq., petitioned—No report.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 83
Total 70

PATRON—Heir of the late Lord Seaforth.

ROXBURGHSHIRE

Is divided into 31 parishes, containing 6,156 houses, and 33,682 inhabitants, viz. 15,813 males, and 17,869 females; of whom 3,964 were returned as being employed in various trades, and 7,148 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1708, William Ker, esq., petitioned against Sir G. Eliot, bart., and the sitting member was declared duly elected.

In 1790, John Rutherford, esq., petitioned against Sir George Douglas bart. The committee was appointed March 26, 1792; and on the 30th, the chairman informed the House that the sitting member was duly elected. Fraser, vol. ii. p. 275.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 49
Total 143

PATRON—Earl of Minto.

SELKIRKSHIRE

CONTAINS 986 houses, and 5,070 inhabitants, viz. 2,356 males, and 2,714 females, of whom 583 were returned as being principally employed in trade and manufacture, and 1,023 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

We do not find any petitions concerning the election of a member for this county.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 13
Total 38

PATRON—Duke of Buccleugh.

STIRLINGSHIRE

Is divided into 22 parishes; containing 7,530 houses, and 50,825 inhabitants, viz. 23,875 males, and 26,950 females having 11,878 employed in trade, and 9,458 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1722, John Napier, esq., petitioned against the return of John Graham, jun., esq.; renewed in sessions 2d, 3rd, and 4th, and then withdrawn.

In 1734, Thomas Erskine, esq., petitioned against Sir James Campbell, bart. The sitting member was voted duly elected in 1735.

In 1790, Sir Alexander Campbell, bart., and several of the freeholders, petitioned against Sir Thomas Dundas's election.

March 17, 1791. The chairman of the committee appointed for the purpose of investigation, reported to the House, "that the sitting member was duly elected, and that neither the petitions given in, nor Sir Thomas Dundas's opposition to them, were frivolous or vexatious."

1796. Robert Belches, esq., petitioned against the return of the Hon. Sir George Keith Elphinstone, K. B. when Mr. Belches dying soon after, the petition was withdrawn.

1802. Sir Robert Abercrombie, bart., petitioned against the election of the Hon. Elphinstone Fleming. The petition was renewed Nov. 18, 1803, but as no evidence was produced in support of it, May 3, 1804, the sitting member was voted duly elected.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 30
Total 103

PATRON—Duke of Montrose.

SUTHERLANDSHIRE

EXTENDS in length 80 miles, and in breadth 40. It contains only one town and borough, Dornoch; 13 parishes; 4,315 houses, and 23,117 inhabitants, viz. 10,425 males, and 12,692 females, of whom 670 were employed in trade.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

In 1722, Sir John Gordon, bart., of Enboe, petitioned against the election of Sir William Gor-

don, bart. Resolved, Feb. 25, 1723, "That the right of election is in the heritors, feuers, wadsetters, and life-renters, possessed of lands in this shire, whether holding of the crown, or of the subject, and that Sir William Gordon, bart., is duly elected."

1735. Sir William Gordon, bart., petitioned against the return of Sir James Ferguson, withdrew his petition: renewed in sessions 2.

1741. George Mackay, esq., petitioned; renewed sessions 2, 3, 4.

1747. Lieut. Gen. James St. Clair petitioned against the return of Captain George Mackay; renewed sessions 2, 3, 4.

Fraser, v. 2. p. 157, 185. Dec. 17, 1790. Robert Home Gordon, esq., petitioned against James Grant, esq.: Robert Bruce Æneas Macleod also petitioned Dec. 23. Mr. Gordon claimed the seat, stating that the sitting member was ineligible. At the trial, he insisted only on a void election. Mr. Macleod also claimed the seat. On the 13th of March, 1792, the committee informed the House by their chairman, "that the sitting member was duly elected; that Mr. Gordon's petition was not frivolous or vexatious, and that Mr. Macleod's was frivolous and vexatious."

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 23
Total 26

PATRON—Marchioness of Stafford.

WIGTONSHIRE

CONTAINS three royal boroughs, viz. Wigton, Stranraer, and Whithorn; and 17 parishes; containing 4,660 houses, and 22,918 inhabitants, viz. 10,570 males, and 12,348 females, of whom 1,815 were returned as being employed in trade, and 6,995 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1710, Col. Patrick Vans was declared not duly elected. His seat was taken by John Stewart, esq.

1735. Alexander M'Dowall, esq., petitioned against the return of Col William Dalrymple; renewed sessions 2.

1762. James Murray, esq., petitioned, and on the 22d Feb. he requested leave to withdraw it, to which the House agreed.

In 1784, Thomas Goldie, esq., petitioned against the return of Andrew M'Dowall, esq. Feb. 18, 1785, the committee informed the House by their chairman, that the sitting member was duly elected.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—nominal 34
Total 50

PATRON—Earl of Galloway.

EDINBURGH CITY.

EDINBURGH is the metropolitan city of Scotland, and county town of Mid Lothian, 56 miles from Berwick, and 394 from London: contains 7,492 houses and 67,288 inhabitants, being 28,729 males and 38,559 females, of whom 10,705 were returned as being employed in trade, commerce, and manufacture; in the latter particularly is the branch of cambric and muslin; and 1,420 in agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

In 1710, Henry Hamilton, esq., petitioned against the return of Sir Patrick Johnston, knt.; the sitting member duly elected.

1715. John Campbell, esq., petitioned against the return of Sir George Warrender, but withdrew his petition.

1741. Deacons of Edinburgh petitioners.—No report.

1780. Sir Lawrence Dundas, bart., petitioned against the return of William Miller, esq.

March 22, 1781. The chairman of the committee informed the House that the petitioner was duly elected, and ought to have been returned.

1807. A petition was presented against the return of Sir Patrick Murray.

April 13. The chairman of the committee reported to the House, that the sitting member was duly elected, and that the petition was frivolous and vexatious.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Old dean of Guild
4 Baillies	1 Old Treasurer
1 Dean of Guild	3 Merchant counsellors
1 Treasurer	2 Trades counsellors
1 Old Provost	6 Ordinary council deacons
4 Old Baillies	8 Extraordinary ditto

Total 33.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—33.

PATRONS—Duke of Buccleugh and Mr. Dundas of Arniston.

BOROUGHS.

DISTRICT I. *Kirkwall, Wick, Dornock, Tain, and Dingwall.*

KIRKWALL, a royal burgh and chief town of the Orkney Isles, in the parish of Kirkwall and St. Ola, in the island of Pomona, contains 417 houses and 2,621 inhabitants, viz. 1,078 males and 1,543 females, of whom 365 were returned as being employed in trade.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
4 Baillies	12 Common counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	4 Deacons of crafts

Total 23.

WICK, a royal borough on the east coast of the shire of Caithness, seated at the mouth of a small river of the same name, 20 miles from Thurso; containing 884 houses and 3,986 inhabitants, of whom 1,015 were returned as being employed in various trades; but the chief branch of commerce is its fisheries. Wick is the county town of Caithness, and the seat of the sheriff's court.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
2 Baillies	7 Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	Total 12.

DORNOCH, a royal borough in the shire of Sutherland, 32 miles from Fort George; containing 559 houses and 2,362 inhabitants, of whom 196 only were returned employed in trade. It stands on the north coast of the firth of Dornoch, and was made a royal borough by King Charles, but is now going to decay. It is governed by a provost, four baillies, and 10 counsellors.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
4 Baillies	8 Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	Total 15.

TAIN, or THANE, a royal borough, and the county town of Ross-shire, seated on the firth of Dornoch, ten miles from Cromarty, containing 507 houses and 2,277 inhabitants.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
3 Bailies	9 Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	Total 15.

DINGWALL, a royal borough in the shire of Ross, ten miles from Inverness, and 166 from Edinburgh, containing 278 houses and 1,418 inhabitants, of whom 121 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
2 Baillies	10 Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	Total 15.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

These royal boroughs join in sending one member to Parliament.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1708, Sir James Mackenzie, bart., petitioned against the return of Robert Douglas, esq.—Petition withdrawn.

1714. The magistrates of Kirkwall petitioned against the return of Robert Munro, esq.—No report.

1722. Robert Gordon, esq,, petitioned against the return of Robert Munro, esq.—No report.

In 1741, Sir Robert Mearns, bart., petitioned against the return of Charles Erskine, esq. The election declared void March 3, 1742.

Luders, vol. iii. p. 429.

In 1784, John Sinclair, esq., petitioned against the return of the Right Hon. Charles James Fox, April 18, 1785, the chairman of the committee reported, that the sitting member was duly elected.

Same Parliament, Sir James Riddell, bart., petioned against the return of George Ross, esq., but afterwards withdrew his petition.

Same Parliament, Major-general Charles Ross petitioned against the return of Captain Charles Ross.—No report.

1806. Sir John Sinclair, bart., petitioned against the return of John Randol Mackenzie, esq.: the committee found the sitting member duly elected.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—5

PATRON—Marchioness of Stafford.

DISTRICT II. *Inverness, Forres, Nairn, and Fortrose.*

INVERNESS, a royal borough and county town of Inverness-shire, standing on both sides of the river Ness, where it falls into the Moray firth, 32 miles from Fort Augustus, and 156 from Edinburgh, containing 1,392 houses and 8,732 inhabitants, viz. 3,718 males and 5,014 females, of whom 1,389 were returned as being employed in various trades and manufactures, and 268 in agriculture. The chief manufactures are of hemp and flax, and some of cotton and woollen; there are also several tanneries, brick-works, &c. The harbour is safe and

commodious: vessels of 200 tons can unload at the quay, and those of 500 tons can ride at safety in the firth, within one mile of the town.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Dean of Guild
4 Baillies	11 Merchant counsellors.
1 Treasurer	3 Trades counsellors

Total 21.

FORRES, a royal borough in the shire of Murray, on a rising ground, near the bay of Finhorn, 10 miles from Nairn, and 20 from Fochaber; containing 663 houses and 3,114 inhabitants, being 1,274 males and 1,840 females, of whom 380 were returned as being employed in trade, &c. The houses are neatly built, and the river Findhorn, which is navigable within two miles of the town, abounds with salmon.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
4 Baillies	10 Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	Total 17.

NAIRN, a royal borough and the county town of Nairn, situated on the coast of the Moray Frith, where the river Nairn flows into that arm of the sea, eight miles from Fort George, and ten from Forres; containing 543 houses and 2,215 inhabitants, viz. 930 males and 1,285 females, of whom 621 were employed in trade and manufacture.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
3 Baillies	11 Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	Total 17.

FORTROSE, a royal borough in the shire of Ross, on the north side of the Murray Firth, nearly opposite to Fort George, seven miles from Fort George, and nine from Inverness; containing 278 houses and 1,289 inhabitants. This borough comprises two towns, viz. Rosemarkie and Chanonry, which were united by royal charter. The former is a borough of considerable antiquity. The latter lies about one mile westward, and receives its name from the Chanonry of Ross, and the bishop's residence: it is now the seat of a presbytery.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Dean of guild
3 Baillies	9 Counsellors
1 Treasurer	Total 15.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

These four royal boroughs send one member to Parliament.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1714, George Mackenzie, esq., petitioned against the return of William Stuart, esq.—No report.

In 1728, Alexander Gordon, esq., was declared not duly elected, but had leave to petition.

1768. Sir Alexander Grant, bart., and the delegates of the two boroughs who voted for him,

petitioned; but they afterwards requested leave to withdraw their petition.

1802. The return of Alexander Penrose Cuming Gordon, esq., was petitioned against by Sir Hector Munro, but no evidence being adduced in support of the petition, in 1803 the sitting member was declared duly elected. The petition was not voted frivolous or vexatious. Peckwell, v. i. p. 109.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—4.

PATRON—Charles Grant, esq.

DISTRICT III. *Elgin, Cullen, Banff, Inverary, and Kintore.*

ELGIN, a royal borough and county town of Elgin, or Murrayshire, on the banks of the small river Lossie, three miles from its influx into the German Ocean, 11¼ from Forres, and 169 from Edinburgh; containing 1,001 houses and 4,345 inhabitants, being 1,857 males and 2,488 females, of whom 1,675 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture, and 710 in agriculture.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	4 Old Baillies
4 Baillies	1 Old Dean of Guild
1 Dean of guild	1 Old Treasurer
1 Treasurer	3 Counsellors
1 Old Provost	2 Deacons of crafts

Total 19.

CULLEN, a royal borough in the shire of Banff, 13 miles from Banff; containing 262 houses and

1,076 inhabitants, of whom 481 were returned as being employed in manufactures, principally of linen and damask, established by the Earl of Seafield, who is the hereditary provost of the town, and has under him three baillies, a treasurer, a dean of the guild, and 13 counsellors.

CORPORATION.

3 Baillies	1 Treasurer
1 Dean of Guild	21 Counsellors

Total 26.

BANFF, the capital town of the shire of Banff, 44 miles from Aberdeen; contains 660 houses and 3,571 inhabitants, of whom 429 were returned employed in various trades and manufactures.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Deacon convener
4 Baillies	1 Deacon assessor to the deacon convener
1 Dean of Guild	18 Guild counsellors
1 Treasurer	

Total 27.

INVERURY, an ancient royal burgh in Aberdeenshire, containing 189 houses and 783 inhabitants.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
4 Baillies	9 Counsellors

Total 15.

KINTORE, a small borough in the shire of Aberdeen, seated on the river Don, 15 miles west

from the county town, and containing 196 houses and 846 inhabitants.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
3 Baillies	3 Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	Total 9.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

These five boroughs send one member to Parliament.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1715, James Murray, esq., was declared not duly returned, but had leave to petition.

1722. John Campbell, esq., petitioned against the return of William Fraser, esq. The petition was renewed the two following sessions, and the petitioner voted duly elected, Jan. 23, 1725.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—*5.*

PATRON—Earl of Seafield.

DISTRICT IV. *Aberdeen, Montrose, Brechin, Inverbervie, and Aberbrothock.*

ABERDEEN, a city, the capital of Aberdeenshire, 84 miles from Edinburgh, and 474 from London; containing 1,753 houses and 17,597 inhabitants, of whom 10,450 were returned employed in various trades and manufactures. It is divided into the Old and New Town. The old lies about a mile to the north of the new.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Master of kirk and bridge works
4 Baillies	1 Master of the guild brethren's hospital
1 Dean of Guild	6 Merchant counsellors
1 Treasurer	2 Trade counsellors
1 Shoremaster	Total 19.
1 Master of mortifications	

MONTROSE, a royal borough and sea-port town in the shire of Angus or Forfar, seated on a peninsula formed by the South Esk, a large expanse of water called the Bason, formed by that river and the German Ocean, 12 miles from Aberbrothick, 36 from Aberdeen, and 70 from Edinburgh; containing 1,010 houses and 7,974 inhabitants, viz. 3,380 males and 4,594 females, of whom 1,422 were employed in various trades and manufactures, and 382 in agriculture.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Old Dean of Guild
3 Baillies	1 Old Treasurer
1 Dean of Guild	1 Master of the hospital
1 Treasurer	1 Old master of ditto
1 Old Provost	3 Merchants counsellors
3 Old Baillies	2 Trades counsellors

Total 19.

BRECHIN, a royal borough in the shire of Angus, eight miles from Montrose, and 24 from Dundee; containing 756 houses and 5,466 inhabit-

ants, being 2,590 males and 2,946 females, of whom there were only 857 returned as being employed in trade and manufacture. There are several well attended fairs or markets held here; that called Trinity Fair or Muir is the best for cattle in the north of Scotland.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Master of the hospital
2 Baillies	5 Merchant counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	2 Merchant counsellors
1 Treasurer	Total 13.

INVERBERVIE, a parish in the shire of Kincardine, 26 miles from Aberbrothick, and 40 from Aberdeen; containing 208 houses and 1,068 inhabitants.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
3 Baillies	9 Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	Total 15.

ABERBROTHWICK, a royal burgh of Scotland, in the county of Angus or Forfar, 15 miles from St. Andrew's, and 40 from Edinburgh; containing 622 houses and 4,943 inhabitants, of whom 1,839 were returned employed in various trades. It is seated at the mouth of the river Borthwick, as its name imports. The port is of great antiquity, and has a good coasting trade for coals and lime. The manufactures are chiefly of brown linens and Osnaburghs. It exports thread, barley, and wheat,

to England; and imports flax, flax-seed, and timber, from the Baltic.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Convener of the trades
2 Baillies	1 Treasurer
1 Dean of Guild	13 Counsellors
	Total 19.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

The delegates of these five boroughs send a member to Parliament.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1710, James Scott, esq., was declared not duly elected.

1715. James Erskine was declared not duly elected.

1722. William Kerr, esq., was declared not duly elected, but had leave to petition.

1741. Alexander Udney esq., petitioned.—Withdrawn.

1747. David Scott, esq., petitioned against the return of Charles Maitland, esq.: heard in part, and then withdrawn.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—5.

PATRON—James Farquhar, esq.

DISTRICT V. *Forfar, Perth, Dundee, Cupar, and City of St. Andrew.*

FORFAR is a royal borough of considerable antiquity, in the shire of Angus or Forfarshire, 13 miles from Dundee; containing 726 houses and 5,165 inhabitants, being 2,486 males and 2,679 females, of whom 1,281 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture. A considerable manufacture of canvas, sail-cloth, Osnaburghs for sheeting, and other coarse linens, is carried on in this place; besides the making of shoes called *brogues*, which employs a number of hands.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	11 Merchant counsellors
2 Baillies	4 Deacons of crafts
1 Treasurer	Total 19.

PERTH, the capital of the shire of Perth, situated on the south-west bank of the river Tay, 28 miles from Edinburgh; containing 1,353 houses and 14,878 inhabitants, viz. 6,723 males and 8,155 females, of whom 3,585 were returned as being employed in trade, manufacture, and handicrafts, and 128 in agriculture. From all the ancient historians it appears that Perth was formerly a place of great trade. The salmon fishery on the Tay is very extensive, the annual rent of which is about 7000*l. per annum*. The salmon are sent to London packed in ice, or pickled, a smack sailing

every third or fourth day during the season. The staple manufacture of Perth is linen, but of late years that of cotton has been introduced, and is daily increasing; and it is computed that upwards of 15,000 looms are employed in the town. There are also extensive manufactures of leather, boots, shoes, gloves, &c.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	3 Old Merchant Baillies
3 Merchant Baillies	1 Old Trades Baillie
1 Trades Baillie	1 Old Dean of Guild
1 Dean of Guild	1 Old Treasurer
1 Treasurer	2 Merchant Counsellors
1 Old Provost	10 Trades Counsellors

Total 26.

DUNDEE, a royal borough in the shire of Angus or Forfar, on the north bank of the river Tay, 11 miles from Cupar, and 40 from Edinburgh; containing 6,952 houses and 26,084 inhabitants, being 11,538 males and 14,546 females, of whom 5,100 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture. The principal manufacture here is of linen, particularly Osnaburghs, canvas, bagging, &c. for exportation, and the Dundee coloured thread has long been in high repute. Its ancient name was *Alectum*, or *Aleo*, but changed at the building of St. Mary's church, by the Earl of Huntingdon, to *Dondei*, or *Donum Dei*, in gratitude for his miraculous escape from shipwreck in 1189, when returning from the crusades.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Old Provost
4 Baillies	2 Old Baillies
1 Dean of Guild	5 Merchant Counsellors
1 Treasurer	3 Trades Counsellors
1 Shoremaster	Total 19.

CUPAR OF ANGUS, a town and parish in the valley of Strathmore, partly in the shire of Angus, and partly in the shire of Perth, Scotland, 13 miles from Perth, and 53 from Edinburgh; containing 460 houses and 2,416 inhabitants, of whom 497 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	13 Merchant Counsellors
3 Baillies	8 Trade Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	4 Adjoined Counsellors
1 Treasurer	Total 31.

ST. ANDREW'S, a town and ancient city in the shire of Fife, Scotland, 47 miles from Edinburgh; contains 848 houses and 4,566 inhabitants, being 1,984 males and 2,582 females, of whom 681 were returned employed in trade.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	14 Guild Counsellors
4 Baillies	1 Deacon Convener
1 Dean of Guild	7 Deacons of Trades
1 Treasurer	Total 29.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

The delegates of these five boroughs send a member to Parliament.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1710, John Haldane, esq., petitioned against the return of George Yeaman, esq.—No report.

1722, there was a double return, viz. Charles Leslie and William Erskine, esqrs.; the former declared not duly elected, but had leave to petition, which he did, and which was renewed two sessions.

1769. Robert Mackintosh, esq., petitioned against the return of George Dempster, esq.—Petition withdrawn.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—5.

PATRON—Sir David Wedderburne.

DISTRICT VI. *Crail, Kilrenny, Anstruther Easter, Anstruther Wester, and Pittenweem.*

CRAIL, a royal borough, in the shire of Fife, Scotland, four miles from Anstruther, and 39½ from Edinburgh; containing 328 houses and 1,652 inhabitants, of whom 146 were returned as being employed in trade. It stands on the banks of the firth of Forth, and has a small harbour.

CORPORATION.

3 Baillies	11 Merchant Counsellers
1 Treasurer	6 Trades Counsellors

Total 21.

KILRENNY, a royal burgh in the shire of Fife, Scotland, on the north coast of the firth of Forth, two miles from Anstruther. It has much decreased since the Union, and the decay of its once considerable fishery. It contains 205 houses and 1,043 inhabitants.

CORPORATION.

3 Baillies	11 Counsellors
1 Treasurer	Total 15.

ANSTRUTHER EASTER, a sea-port town and borough in the district of St. Andrew, Fifeshire, 12 miles from Cupar, and 25 from Edinburgh; contains 191 houses and 969 inhabitants.

CORPORATION.

3 Baillies	15 Counsellors
1 Treasurer	Total 19.

ANSTRUTHER WESTER, a parish adjoining to Anstruther Easter; contains 65 houses and 296 inhabitants. The inhabitants are principally fishermen.

CORPORATION.

3 Baillies	11 Counsellors
1 Treasurer	Total 15.

PITTENWEEM, a royal borough and sea-port, in the shire of Fife, Scotland, lying on the coast of the firth of Forth, 1½ mile from Anstruther, and 20 from Kirkcaldy; containing 184 houses and 1,072 inhabitants, of whom 1,001 were employed in trade, principally in the salt and coal works in the neighbourhood, the whole parish lying on a field of excellent coal.

CORPORATION.

4 Baillies	19 Counsellors
1 Treasurer	Total 24.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

These five places join in sending a member to Parliament.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1708, Sir John Anstruther, bart., was declared not duly elected. His seat was taken by Major-General G. Hamilton.

In 1713, George Hamilton, esq., petitioned against the return of Sir J. Anstruther, bart., but the sitting member was voted duly elected.

In 1722, there was a double return, viz. David Scott and Philip Anstruther, esqrs. The former being declared not duly returned, Mr. Scott petitioned, complaining of an undue election, and Mr. Anstruther was voted duly elected. Resolved, Dec. 20, "That the petition of David Scott, esq., is groundless, frivolous, and vexatious." Ordered: "That David Scott, esq., do make satisfaction to Philip Anstruther, esq., for the costs and expenses he hath been at by reason of the said petition."

1741. Major-General Philip Anstruther, petitioned against the Hon. George Stuart, esq.—Withdrawn.

1762. Robert Alexander petitioned against the return of Sir John Anstruther.—Withdrawn.

1784. Lieut. Gen. Moncrieffe petitioned against the return of John Anstruther, esq.—Withdrawn,

NUMBER OF VOTERS—5.

PATRON—Sir John Anstruther.

DISTRICT VII. *Kinghorn, Kirkcaldy, Bruntisland, and Dysart.*

KINGHORN is a royal borough in the shire of Fife, Scotland, pleasantly situated on a hill on the coast of the firth of Forth, opposite to Leith, and contains 316 houses and 2,308 inhabitants, viz. 1,056 males and 1,252 females, of whom 423 were returned as employed in trade, and 275 in agriculture. The principal manufactures here are thread stockings, and the spinning of cotton and flax. It has two harbours; one below the town, and the other above half a mile distant at Rettycur, for the convenience of the passage-boats to Leith.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	13 Counsellors
2 Baillies	5 Deacons
1 Treasurer	Total 22.

KIRKCALDY, a borough and sea-port town in the shire of Fife, on the firth of Forth, three miles from Kinghorn, and 13 from Edinburgh; containing 354 houses, and 3,248 inhabitants, viz. 14,464 males and 1,784 females, of whom 700 were returned as being principally employed in the manufacture of checks and tickings, and of leather and cotton. It is supposed to have derived its name from the Culdees, who had a cell here.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
2 Baillies	16 Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	Total 21.

BRUNTISLAND, a town and royal borough in the district of Kircaldy, shire of Fife, standing on the banks of the firth of Forth, six miles from Leith, and seven from Edinburgh; containing 265 houses and 1,530 inhabitants, of whom 158 were returned as being employed in trade, &c. It has a good harbour, defended by a pier; and the town appears anciently to have been fortified. This place had a considerable trade before the union, in the exportation of corn and malt, after which it continued on the decline till within these last ten years. There are now a sugar-house, vitriol-work, and a considerable distillery. It has also a tolerable business in ship-building. Among the rocks are excellent beds of oysters; and in the neighbourhood are quarries of free and lime-stone.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	11 Merchant Counsellors
2 Baillies	7 Trade Counsellors. *

Total 21.

DYSART, a royal borough in the shire of Fife, on the shore of the firth of Forth, two miles from Kircaldy, and 16 from Cupar; containing inclusive of its hamlets, 835 houses and 5,385 inhabitants, of whom 1,372 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture. It has about 700 looms employed in the manufacture of checks only. A number of hands are also occupied in ship-building. It has a very good harbour, and

* When a nobleman is provost, there are three baillies, and the council consists of twenty-two.

about 36 vessels employed in the coal and foreign trade. Vast quantities of salt are also made in the neighbourhood. The ground on which this burgh stands rises gradually from the sea for about a mile, and then slopes down to the river Orr on the other side. Besides the town the burgh includes three villages, viz. Pathead, Galaton, and Borland, a great number of whose inhabitants are employed in the manufacture of nails. Below Pathead, on a free-stone rock, stands the old castle of Raven's Craig, belonging to the family of St. Clair. Free-stone and lime-stone are found in various parts of the parish; but its most valuable productions are coal and iron stone. The coal pits here were among the first wrought in Scotland 300 years ago; the seams now working are about 60 fathoms below the surface. The iron stone is very rich, yielding about 12 cwt. of pure metal per ton of ore. The chief proprietor of these valuable works is the Earl of Rosslyn.

CORPORATION.

2 Baillies	21 Counsellors
1 Treasurer	Total 24.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

These four places send one member to Parliament.

Petitions, &c. In 1709, John Sinclair, esq., eldest son of Lord Sinclair, was, being the eldest son of a peer, declared incapable of being elected. A new writ was ordered. *See Aberdeenshire.*

1722. Thomas Leslie, esq., was declared not duly returned, but had leave to petition.

1774. James Townsend Oswald, esq., petitioned.—Not renewed second session.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—4.

PATRON—General Ferguson.

DISTRICT VIII. *Inverkeithing, Dunfermline, Culross, Sterling, and Queensferry.*

INVERKEITHING, a royal borough and sea-port town in Fifeshire, on the north coast of the firth of Forth, at the head of Inverkeithing Bay, eight miles from Dunfermline, and 18 from Edinburgh; containing 339 houses, and 2,228 inhabitants, viz. 1,031 males and 1,197 females, of whom 177 were returned as employed in trade and 91 in agriculture.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
2 Baillies	10 Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	Total 15.

DUNFERMLINE, a royal borough in the shire of Fife, the seat of a Presbytery, and the most considerable manufacturing town in the county, three miles from the firth of Forth, and 15 from Edinburgh; containing 1,498 houses and 9,980 inhabitants, being 4,671 males and 5,309 females, of whom 1,709 were returned as being employed in various trades and manufactures. It has a good

weekly market, and eight fairs annually. The peculiar manufacture here is of diaper table linen, in which there are employed nearly 1,200 looms. In the chest of the corporation of weavers is preserved a curious specimen of their art, being a shirt wrought entire in the loom, above a century ago, without a seam, or the least assistance of the needle.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Old Dean of Guild
2 Baillies	1 Old Treasurer
1 Dean of Guild	2 Merchant Counsellors
1 Treasurer	2 Trades Counsellors
1 Old Provost	8 Deacons of Crafts
2 Old Baillies	Total 22.

CULCROSS, a royal borough in the shire of Perth, Scotland, on the north shore of the firth of Forth, 23 miles from Edinburgh; containing 267 houses, and 1,502 inhabitants, of whom 170 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture.

CORPORATION.

2 Merchant Baillies	1 Deacon Convener
1 Trades Baillie	8 Merchant Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	5 Trades Counsellors
1 Treasurer	Total 19.

STIRLING, an ancient town in Scotland, in that division of Lenoxshire to which it gives name, situated on the river Forth, 35 miles from Edinburgh; containing 614 houses, and 5,256 inhabitants, of whom 514 were returned as being em-

ployed in trade. The principal manufactures are of carpeting and shalloons.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Dean of Guild
4 Baillies	7 Merchant Counsellors
1 Treasurer	7 Trades Counsellors

Total 21.

QUEENSFERRY, a royal burgh in the shire of Linlithgow, Scotland, on the coast of the firth of Forth, nine miles west of Edinburgh: containing 77 houses, and 464 inhabitants.

CORPORATION.

2 Seamen Baillies	5 Landmen Counsellors
1 Landman Baillie	3 Deacons of Crafts
10 Seamen Counsellors	Total 21.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

These five boroughs join in sending one member to Parliament.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1708, Sir John Wemyss, bart., petitioned against the return of Col. John Erskine—No report.

1714. Col. John Erskine petitioned against the return of H. Cuningham, jun.: The committee discharged Col. Erskine from proceeding on it, not being signed by himself.

1735. James Erskine, esq., petitioned against the return of Lieut.-Col. Peter Halket; renewed sessions 2.

1762. Alexander Wedderburn, esq., petitioned

against the return of Francis Holborne: but afterwards withdrew it.

1774. Sir Alexander Gilmour. bart., petitioned, and also four petitions from electors, complaining of an undue election and return. The petitioners afterwards requested leave to withdraw their petitions; to which the House agreed.

1784. James Francis Erskine, esq., petitioned —No report.

1796. Sir John Henderson, bart., petitioned against the return of the Hon. Andrew Cochrane Johnstone. The committee reported to the House, that the sitting member was duly elected, and that neither the defence nor petition was frivolous or vexatious, March 31, 1797. On that very day, the hon. A. C. Johnstone (who took the name of Johnstone in this Parliament, on his marriage with the daughter of the Earl of Hopetoun) was made governor of the island of Dominica, and a new writ ordered.

There was a double return in 1802, and the hon. Alexander Forester Cochrane, (whose name stood first in the return) and Sir John Henderson, bart., petitioned. The committee was chosen Feb. 8, 1803; and on the 28th day, they determined that the hon. Captain Cochrane was duly elected, and that neither of the petitions was frivolous or vexatious. Peckwell, vol. i. p. 1-16.

James Trotter, a witness summoned by the speaker on the part of Sir J. Henderson, having neglected to appear, was, on his surrendering himself, committed to Newgate, April 4, 1803, and reprimanded and discharged, paying his fees, May 6.

1806. The hon. Alexander F. Cochrane and others, petitioned against the election of Sir John Henderson, bart.—No report.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—5.

PATRON of the whole—Earl of Hopetoun.

DISTRICT IX. *Glasgow, Renfrew, Rutherglen, and Dumbarton.*

GLASGOW, a city in Lanarkshire, Scotland, 35 miles from Edinburgh, and 10 miles from Dumbarton; containing 20.276 houses, and 77,385 inhabitants, viz. 35,007 males, and 42.378 females, of whom 22,335 were returned as being employed in various trades and manufactures, and 1,834 in agriculture. Glasgow is situated on the north bank of the Clyde, and with respect to commerce and manufactures, may be considered the chief city of Scotland. The annual value of the produce of the coal-mines in the barony of Glasgow, is estimated at from 30 to 40,000*l.* sterling. Over the coals there is a thin, but very rich stratum of iron stone. This was formerly considered as an incumbrance, but since the erection of the Clyde iron works, it has been employed in the most advantageous manner, and affords a new source of employment to a great number of persons. In early times, the trade of Glasgow chiefly arose from the curing of salmon and herrings, which were chiefly sent to France, whence wines and other commodities were received in return. In 1609, the population of Glasgow amounted to

only from 7 to 8,000; fifty years after that period, it was from 14 to 15,000; in the year 1755, it had increased to 27,115; and in 1775, to 43,000. From the census in 1802, it appears to have increased to 77,385, and including the suburbs and adjoining places, to 86,630.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Master of Works
2 Merchant Baillies	1 Deacon Convener
1 Trades Baillie	12 Trades Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	13 Merchant Counsellors
1 Treasurer	Total 33.

RENFREW, the county town of Renfrewshire, Scotland, pleasantly situated on the river Cart, five miles west of Glasgow, and three north of Paisley. It consists of one narrow street about half a mile long, with several bye lanes; containing 426 houses, and 2,031 inhabitants, viz. 962 males, and 1,069 females, of whom 292 were returned as being employed in trade: but the commerce of the town is very inconsiderable, although its local situation is well adapted thereto; the principal branch of trade is in the manufacture of thread, but there are also extensive soap and candle works, and about a hundred looms employed in the silk and muslin weaving.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Dean of Guild
2 Baillies	1 Treasurer
1 Old Provost	13 Counsellors
2 Old Baillies	Total 21.

RUTHERGLEN, a royal borough, in the shire of Lanark, Scotland, 2½ miles from Glasgow; containing 347 houses, and 2,437 inhabitants. It is of great antiquity, and was formerly of much larger extent than now, the foundation of streets being often found in the fields. The fairs of this town have long been famous for the show of Lanarkshire horses, esteemed the best for draught in Scotland.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
2 Baillies	15 Counsellors
	Total 19.

DUMBARTON, the county town of the shire, is a royal borough, 14 miles north west of Glasgow; containing 327 houses, and 2,549 inhabitants, being 1,125 males, and 1,416 females, of whom 611 were returned as being employed in trade, &c. It is a very ancient town, and supposed to be the *Alcluid* of the Britons, and one of the seats of Fingal.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
2 Baillies	10 Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	Total 15.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

These four royal boroughs join in sending one member to Parliament.

PETITIONS, &c. 1708. Daniel Campbell, esq., petitioned: withdrew his petition.

1728. John Blackwood, esq., was found not

duly returned, but had leave to petition, which he did; it was renewed the following sessions; but the second petition differing from the first that was delivered in 1729, Resolved, "that it be rejected." He petitioned again, and it was also renewed without effect.

1796. James Dunlop, esq., petitioned against Mr. Craufurd's election.

1802. Boyd Alexander, esq., and the Provosts of Glasgow and Renfrew, being delegates for those boroughs, petitioned against the return of Alexander Houston, esq. The delegates from the boroughs of Rutherglin and Dumbarton, had voted for the sitting member; for whom also the delegates from Dumbarton, the presiding burgh, had given his casting vote; but the petitioner objected to the election of the delegate from Dumbarton. The committee that tried this election, decided generally, that the petitioner was duly elected, March 30, 1803. The return amended.

1806. A petition against the return of Archibald Campbell, esq.—No report.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—4.

PATRONS of the whole—Sir John Maxwell and Archibald Campbell, esq.

DISTRICT X. *Selkirk, Peebles, Lanark, and Linlithgow.*

SELKIRK, a royal borough, and the county town of Selkirkshire, Scotland, situated on a rising ground on the banks of the Ettrick, 11 miles from Hawick, and 36 from Edinburgh: containing

396 houses, and 2,098 inhabitants, of whom 314 were employed in various trades.

CORPORATION.

2 Baillies	1 Old Treasurer
1 Dean of Guild	5 Deacons
1 Treasurer	5 Colleagues to the Deacons
2 Old Baillies	10 Merchant Counsellors
1 Old Dean of Guild	5 Trade Counsellors
	Total 33.

PEEBLES, a royal borough, and the county town of the shire of Peebles, or Tweedale, pleasantly situated on the banks of the Tweed, over which it has an elegant bridge of five arches. It lies 22 miles south of Edinburgh, and contains 397 houses, and 2,088 inhabitants, viz. 963 males, and 1,125 females, of whom 336 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture, principally in that of woollens.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
2 Baillies	11 Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	1 Deacon

Total 17.

LANARK, ar oyal burgh, and the county town of Lanarkshire, Scotland, 24 miles from Glasgow, and 30 from Edinburgh. It stands on a rising ground near the river Clyde, 656 feet above the level of the sea, and contains 642 houses, and 4,692 inhabitants, viz. 2,180 males, and 2,512 females, of whom 1,611 were returned as employed

in various trades and manufactures, principally that of cotton.

CORPORATION.

2 Baillies	1 Treasurer
1 Dean of Guild	12 Common Counsellors
1 Deacon Convener	Total 17.

LINLITHGOW, a royal borough, and chief town of Linlithgowshire, or West Lothian, Scotland, 16 miles west of Edinburgh. It consists principally of one street, about three qnarters of a mile long, and contains 457 houses, and 3,594 inhabitants, viz. 1,680 males, and 1,914 females, of whom 1,722 were employed in various trades and manufactures. It was anciently a place of great trade and opulence, and had first the harbour of Blackness, and afterwards of Queensferry, assigned to it as its port; but since the union it has declined considerably.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
4 Baillies	12 Merchant Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	8 Deacons of Craft

Total 27.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

These four boroughs send one member to Parliament.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1714, William Hamilton, esq., petitioned against the return of Sir James Carmichael, bart.

1722. George Douglas, esq., petitioned against the return of Daniel Weir, esq.: renewed sessions 2, 3, and then withdrawn. March 17, 1725, Mr. Weir having died, and a new writ ordered.

1725. William Frazer petitioned against John Murray, esq. The sitting member voted duly elected, 1726.

1741. There was a double return; viz. James Carmichael, and John M'Kay, esqrs. The former waved his return.

1747. Lawrence Dundas, esq., was declared not duly elected. His seat was taken by James Carmichael, esq.

1806. William Maxwell, esq., petitioned against Sir Charles Ross, bart. The committee found Sir Charles Ross, bart., duly elected, March 25, 1807.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—4.

PATRON of the whole—Duke of Buccleugh.

DISTRICT XI. *Haddington, Dunbar, North Berwick, Lauder, and Jedburgh.*

HADDINGTON, a royal borough, and the county town of Haddingtonshire, or East Lothian. It is 17 miles from Edinburgh; contains 688 houses, and 4,049 inhabitants, viz. 1,874 males, and 2,175 females, of whom 376 were returned as being employed in trade and manufactures. The principal manufacture is that of coarse woollen cloth, which is carried on in the suburb. There are two annual fairs, well attended, and a weekly market on Friday, accounted the best grain market in Scotland.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	12 Merchant Counsellors
2 Merchant Baillies	1 Trades Counsellor
1 Trades Baillie	7 Deacons of Crafts
1 Treasurer	Total 25.

DUNBAR, a royal borough and parish in the shire of Haddington, Scotland, situate on a small eminence at the bottom of Dunbar bay, 27 miles equidistant between Edinburgh, and Berwick-upon-Tweed. It contains 696 houses, and 3,951 inhabitants, being 1,736 males, and 2,215 females, of whom 602 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture. The houses are mostly new, regularly built, and well supplied with water. The harbour is safe, and defended by a strong battery; besides which, here are a large and convenient dry dock, and two considerable rope-walks. The inhabitants carry on a very extensive trade in the export of corn. Numerous fishing boats belong to the town.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
3 Baillies	15 Counsellors

Total 20.

BERWICK NORTH, a royal borough and seaport, in the shire of Haddington, Scotland, situated on the firth of Forth, 22 miles from Edinburgh; containing 253 houses, and 1,583 inhabitants.

CORPORATION.

2 Baillies	1 Old Treasurer
1 Treasurer	6 Counsellors
2 Old Baillies	Total 12.

LAUDER, a royal borough in the shire of Berwick, Scotland, seated on a river of the same name, which falls into the Tweed. 22 miles south of Edinburgh, and 24 from Berwick; containing 339 houses, and 1,760 inhabitants, of whom 634 were returned as employed in various trades.

CORPORATION.

2 Baillies	14 Counsellors
1 Treasurer	Total 17.

JEDBURGH, a royal borough in the shire of Roxburgh, Scotland, on the banks of the river Jed, 11 miles from Kelso, and 45 from Edinburgh; it contains, including the parish, 648 houses, and 3,834 inhabitants, viz. 1,770 males, and 2,064 females, of whom 482 were returned as employed in various trades, and 344 in agriculture. The trade and population of this place has considerably decreased since the union. It has several well attended fairs, and a good weekly market for corn and cattle. It is the seat of a presbytery, and of a circuit court.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
4 Baillies	14 Merchant Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	4 Council Deacons

Total 25.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

These five boroughs send one member to Parliament.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1722, Lord William Hay petitioned against the return of Sir James Dalrymple.—No report.

In 1735, there was a double return, Sir John Douglas, bart., and William Kirkpatrick, esq.: the former waved his return.

In 1768, Patrick Warrender, esq., and the Hon. John Maitland, were both returned, but the latter informed the House, that he did not mean to contest the matter, and his name was accordingly erased.

In 1771, Charles Ogilvie, esq., petitioned against the re-election of Patrick Warrender, esq. April 19, the committee informed the House by their chairman, "that the sitting member was duly elected."

In 1774, Sir Alexander Gilmour, bart., Andrew Dickson, esq., &c., constituent members of the borough of Haddington, the magistrates and town council of North Berwick, and the provost, magistrates, and town council of the borough of Dunbar, petitioned against the election of the Hon. John Maitland. A committee was appointed May 2, 1775, and on the 8th, they informed the House by their chairman, that the sitting member was duly elected. Glenbervie, vol. ii. p. 423, 471.

In 1787, George Johnstone petitioned against William Fullarton, esq. The sitting member was declared duly elected.

In 1790, William Fullarton, esq., petitioned against the Hon. Thomas Maitland. The committee determined, 1791, that the sitting member was duly elected, and that the petition was frivolous and vexatious.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—5.

PATRON of the whole—Earl of Lauderdale.

DISTRICT XII. *Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, Sanquehar, Annan, and Lochmaben.*

DUMFRIES, the county town of the foregoing shire, is a royal borough, standing on the river Nith, nine miles from its fall into the Solway firth, and 72 from Edinburgh. It contains, including the parish, 1,263 houses and 7,288 inhabitants, being 3,177 males and 4,111 females, of whom 612 were returned as being employed in trade, &c. The assizes for the county, and for the stewartry of Kirkcudbright, are likewise held here twice a year.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
3 Baillies	12 Merchant counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	7 Deacons

Total 25.

KIRKCUDBRIGHT, a borough and the county town of the stewartry of Kirkcudbright, stands on the river Dee, about four miles from its entrance into the firth, and 28 from Dumfries: it contains 365 houses and 2,380 inhabitants, viz.

1,042 males and 1,338 females, of whom 285 were returned as employed in trade and manufacture, principally in that of cotton, established about 1793, and 356 in agriculture. It consists of two streets meeting at right angles, and the buildings in general neat and regular. Near the centre is a large and elegant court-house. The harbour is safe and well sheltered, being from 16 to 18 feet deep at low water, and 40 at high water. To the port belong about 28 different sized vessels.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
2 Baillies	13 Common Counsellors

Total 17.

SANQUEHAR, a royal borough in the shire of Dumfries, seated on the river Nith, and on the border of Ayrshire, 27 miles from Dumfries, and 33 from Ayre. It consists principally of one long street, and contains 468 houses and 2,350 inhabitants, viz. 1,054 males and 1,296 females, having about 200 persons employed in the woollen trade, and the manufacture of stockings and carpets.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
3 Baillies	11 Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	Total 17.

ANNAN, a town and borough in Dumfries-shire, eight miles from Gretna, and fifteen from Dum-

fries: contains 464 houses and 2,570 inhabitants, of whom 341 were returned employed in trade. It is situated on a river of the same name; vessels of 250 tons can come within half a mile of the town, and vessels of 60 tons as high as the bridge, which consists of five arches, defended by a gateway. A manufactory for carding and spinning has lately been established, which has increased the town.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Dean of Guild
3 Baillies	13 Counsellors
1 Treasurer	Total 19.

LOCHMABEN, a royal borough in the shire of Dumfries, in the district of Annandale, seven miles from Dumfries. The parish extends about ten miles along the banks of the river Annan, and contains 496 houses and 2,053 inhabitants, of whom 771 were employed in trade and manufacture, principally in that of coarse linen cloth for the English market. It was formerly a place of great opulence and trade.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Dean of Guild
3 Baillies	10 Counsellors

Total 15.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

These five boroughs send one member to Parliament.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1708, William Patterson and William Johnson, esqrs., were both returned. The latter was declared duly elected.

1722. Alexander Fergusson, esq., petitioned against the return of William Douglas, esq.

1725. Double return; viz. Sir John Douglas, bart., and William Kirkpatrick, esq. The former waved his return.

1735. Basel Hamilton, esq., petitioned. Withdrew his petition.

1741. William Stuart, esq., petitioned.—No report.

1784. Sir Robert Herries, knt., petitioned against Sir James Johnstone, bart.—No report.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—5.

PATRON of the whole—Marquis of Queensberry.

DISTRICT XIII. *Wigton, New Galloway, Stranraer, and Whitehorn.*

WIGTON, a royal borough in the shire of Wigton, situated on the side of a hill near the mouth of the river Badenoch, seven miles from Newton Douglas; containing 274 houses and 1,475 inhabitants. It is a port of the customs, comprehending the creeks of Wigtonshire from the mull of Galloway to the mouth of the river Dee.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	14 Counsellors
2 Baillies	1 Town clerk
1 Treasurer	Total 19.

New Galloway, a royal burgh in the parish of Glens, and stewartry of Kirkcudbright, in a delightful vale called Glenkins, from the river Ken, which waters it, 18 miles from Newton Douglas, and 78 from Edinburgh; containing, Kells included, 170 houses and 778 inhabitants. The buildings are neat and regular. It possesses little, if any trade: however, from its centrical situation, it has a good market, chiefly for oatmeal and barley. Galloway was made a royal borough by Charles I., when it had scarcely 20 houses. In this neighbourhood stands Kenmure Castle, the seat of the Gordons of Kenmure, who are proprietors of the town.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Dean of the market
2 Baillies	15 Counsellors
1 Treasurer	Total 20.

Stranraer, a royal borough in the shire of Wigton; at the head of Loch Ryan, six miles from Port Patrick; containing 340 houses and 1,722 inhabitants, many of whom are employed in some extensive cotton and linen manufactories. Many of the houses are well built, and it has a good harbour, with a custom-house.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
2 Baillies	13 Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	Total 18.

WHITEHERN, or WHITHORN, a royal borough in the shire of Wigton, situated on the bay of Wigton, where a stream of water falls into the harbour. The town consists chiefly of one street, intersected by several alleys, containing 363 houses and 1,904 inhabitants.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
2 Baillies	15 Counsellors

Total 19.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

These four boroughs send one member to Parliament.

PETITIONS, &c. In 1728, the magistrates, &c. of Wigton, petitioned against John Dalrymple, esq., complaining that the said John Dalrymple, esq., pretended to be elected at Stranraer, whereas, by the statute in that case, the election ought to be at Wigton, and the return made by the common clerk of the said borough. The sitting member was declared duly elected.

1735. Captain John Dalrymple petitioned against the return of Captain James Stuart.

1762. Hutchinson Mure, esq., petitioned, but afterwards withdrew it.

In 1774, Henry Watkin Dashwood, esq., petitioned against William Norton, esq. The committee (who was chosen March 21, 1775,) determined, (March 23,) that the petitioner was duly elected, and ought to have been returned. Glenbervie, vol. ii. p. 181-212. 17 Journ. p. 136.

Nov. 24, 1802. Robert Vans Agnew, esq., petioned against John Spalding, esq. The commit- Peckwell, vol. ii. p. 252-260.

tee was appointed March 3, 1803, and on the 7th determined the sitting member to have been duly elected.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—4.

PATRON of the whole—Earl of Galloway.

DISTRICT XIV. *Ayre, Irvine, Rothsay, Inverary, and Cambletown.*

AYR, a royal borough in the shire of Ayr, 74 miles from Edinburgh; contains 727 houses and 5,492 inhabitants, being 2,424 males and 3,068 females, of whom 4,861 were returned employed in trade and manufacture.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
2 Baillies	10 Merchant Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	2 Trades Counsellors

Total 17.

IRVINE, or IRWINE, a sea-port and royal borough in the shire of Ayre, standing on a river of the same name, 15 miles from Arran, and 61 from Edinburgh; and containing 710 houses and 4,584 inhabitants, viz. 1,850 males 2,734 females, of whom 3,961 were returned as employed in trade, and 336 in agriculture.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
2 Baillies	10 Merchant Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	2 Trades Counsellors

Total 17.

ROTHSAY, a royal borough and parish in the Isle of Bute, 70 miles from Edinburgh; containing 592 houses and 5,231 inhabitants, viz. 2,495 males and 2,736 females, of whom 4,347 were returned as being employed in various trades and manufactures, particularly in the cotton branch. It has an excellent harbour at the bottom of an extensive bay, and a large herring fishery.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	4 Common Counsellors
2 Baillies	11 Trades Counsellors
1 Treasurer	Total 19.

INVERARY, a royal borough and county town of the shire of Argyle. It is pleasantly situated on a small bay at the head of Loch Tyne, and contains 275 houses and 2,045 inhabitants, viz. 986 males and 1,065 females, of whom 215 were returned as employed in various trades, and 114 in agriculture. The chief support of the place is its herring fishery; about 20,000 barrels of herrings being annually caught in the Loch. A linen manufacture was established here in the year 1748, and in 1776 an attempt was made to introduce the woollen manufacture on a large scale, but it did not meet with success. In 1754, a company from Lancashire, called the Argyle Furnace Company, erected a large iron work two miles from Inverary, which still continues, and is said to be in an increasing state. The ore is imported from the west of England, and is smelted with charcoal produced from the forests in the neighbourhood. One

ship belonging to the town is engaged in foreign trade; and about half a dozen employed in importing meal, coals, merchants' goods, &c., and exporting wool, timber, and oak bark.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
2 Baillies	9 Counsellors
	Total 13.

CAMBLETOWN, a royal borough in the shire of Argyle, in the district of Kintyre, 132 miles from Glasgow, and 176 from Edinburgh; containing 1000 houses and 7,093 inhabitants, of whom 649 were returned as being employed in trade and manufacture. It was made a borough in 1701, before which time it was called *Caenn-loch* (Loch head,) and was formerly only a small fishing village. It has a harbour in the form of a crescent, two miles long and one broad, with from six to ten fathoms water, and is much frequented during the herring fishery. There are coal mines about three miles distant from the town, which are brought by a canal from thence.

CORPORATION.

1 Provost	1 Treasurer
2 Baillies	12 Common Counsellors
1 Dean of Guild	Total 17.

REPRESENTATIVE HISTORY.

These five boroughs join in sending one member to Parliament.

NUMBER OF VOTERS—5.

PATRON of the whole—Duke of Argyll.

REPRESENTATION

OF

IRELAND.

In giving the History of the Parliament of Ireland, and the present state of its representation, we have had recourse to the statistical and political account of that kingdom by Edward Wakefield, esq.; a work possessing the highest merit, for general information, profound knowledge, and authentic report.

"It appears that, for the space of almost a century and a half after Henry II. had taken possession of Ireland, there was but one Parliament for both kingdoms, the laws made in the Parliament of England being transmitted to Ireland, under the great seal, to be proclaimed, enrolled, and executed as the laws of Ireland.

"The first regular establishment of a Parliament in Ireland seems to have been about the end of the reign of Edward II.; for the meetings and consultations of the great lords before that period, although in old annals called Parliaments, are not, in the proper sense of the word, entitled to that appellation. When Ireland was invaded by the Scots under Bruce, the English government found itself so much embarrassed, that, not being able to afford effectual assistance to its Irish subjects,

they were authorized to hold a general council of the kingdom among themselves, in order that they might pursue speedier and more decisive measures for allaying the commotions with which the whole country was then agitated.

"In the reign of Henry VII., the Parliament of Ireland became, in some measure, dependent on that of England, by an act passed under the direction of Sir Edward Poynings, the lord deputy, by which it was provided that all the statutes lately made in England, of a public nature, should be held effectual and valid in Ireland. It has been erroneously supposed, that this act extended to the whole code of English statutes; for, in reality, it refers only to a certain number, which, however inaccurately stated, were under the eye of the Irish legislature.

"From this regulation," says Professor Millar, it may be fairly inferred, that the Irish Parliament was at this time understood to possess an independent legislative authority; for if that assembly was capable of adopting the English laws, it must have possessed the power also of rejecting them: and, as this act of legislature sufficiently testifies the exertion of independence on the part of Ireland, the assent of the governor on the part of the king, leaves no doubt of his majesty's approbation and concurrence."

But to secure the dependence of the Irish Parliament, Henry endeavoured to prevent debate, by putting a negative upon all their proceedings. With this intention, he caused another act to be passed, commonly known by the name of Poy-

ning's Law, which declares that no Parliament should be held in Ireland, until the lord deputy and his council should make known to the king and council in England the causes for which the meeting was to be called, and the bills which were to be passed; and that, unless the king's leave were previously obtained, the acts of any Parliament should be void.

In the reign of Queen Mary this law was still further extended, by an act passed under the pretence of explaining the true meaning and intent of the former; in which it was enacted, that no Parliament should be held in Ireland until the chief governor and council had certified to the king and council of England not only the measures which were in contemplation at the time when the Parliament was called, but those also which might become the subject of its future deliberation. Such was the act which finally established the usage of holding Parliaments and enacting laws in Ireland, and by which the proceedings of its legislature were determined till the year 1782, when the Irish Parliament was declared independent of that of England.

Before the 33d year of King Henry VIII., it appears that none were admitted into Parliament but Englishmen by birth or the descendants of Englishmen, the Irish being entirely excluded, because their lands, being beyond the limits of counties, could send no knights; and as they contained no cities or towns, they could send no burgesses. But it is not improbable that the chief reason was the jealousy of the English govern-

ment, which, suspecting their fidelity, did not deem it prudent to suffer them to become members of the great national council.

Before the 34th year of the same sovereign, when Meath was divided into two shires, there were only 12 counties in Ireland, besides the liberty of Tipperary; the number of knights, therefore, must have been few, since there were only four ancient cities, and the boroughs which sent burgesses did not exceed thirty. Hence it appears, that the whole House of Commons could not then amount to a hundred persons; and although Queen Mary added two shires, and Queen Elizabeth seventeen more, to increase the number of knights, they did not all send members to Parliament, for the remote shires of Ulster did not return any.

Ireland, therefore, in the reign of King James, contained 33 counties; and as some of them had no boroughs, it was found expedient to create 40 new ones, by which expedient the influence of the crown acquired a considerable accession of strength. Charles I. exercised this prerogative, but not to so great an extent; and Queen Ann added one borough, which appears to have been the last.

In the year 1719, a private law-suit in Ireland* gave rise to a controversy about the right of appeal from the Irish tribunals to the House of Lords in Britain; and the consequence was, an act of the British Parliament, the express object of which seems to have been, to subject Ireland to a state of com-

* Between Sherlock and Annesley.

plete dependency on the crown of Great Britain. By this act it was declared, first, "that the king's majesty, by and with the consent of the lords spiritual and temporal, and the Commons of Great Britain in Parliament assembled, had, hath, and ought to have, full power and authority to make statutes of sufficient force and validity to bind the people and kingdom of Ireland."

Secondly, "That the House of Lords of Ireland have not, nor of right ought to have, any jurisdiction to judge of, affirm, or reverse any judgment, sentence, or decree, given or made in any court within the said kingdom."

But notwithstanding the servile state in which the legislature of Ireland was held, it seems to have preserved its independence in taxation. No British Parliament, it appears, ever assumed, or even claimed, the right of imposing taxes on that country; and several instances are recorded, in which it manifested its jealousy on this point with a spirit worthy of the national character. In 1690, the Commons of Ireland rejected a money bill, because it had not originated in their House. In 1709, a money bill was returned from England with alterations, and on this account it was rejected by the Commons. A similar circumstance took place in 1768; but, notwithstanding these exertions of the Irish nation in favour of liberty and independence, their efforts were counteracted, and for the most part frustrated, by the indiscreet influence of the crown; and nothing contributed more to render it effectual than the duration of their Parliament.

According to the early constitution of Parliament, both in England and in Ireland, these assemblies could be dissolved at the pleasure of the crown; but when this prerogative was not exercised, they remained till the death of the king. In England, however, in the reign of William III., the nation becoming jealous of the power which the king had acquired over Parliaments, their duration was limited to three years: this period, in the reign of George I., was extended to seven; but as no change of the same kind had been introduced into Ireland, the Parliament there continued to exist, according to the old plan, with the life of the king, till the year 1768, when, in consequence of a bill brought in by Dr. Lucas, the member for Dublin, its duration was restricted to eight years.

Agreeably to the Act of Union in 1800, the representation of Ireland consists at present of 28 temporal peers, elected for life by the general body of Irish peers; four spiritual ones, consisting of bishops, who are replaced by the same number every two years in rotation,; and 100 commoners, chosen from the following places:

Taking the representation by counties, including the cities, towns, and boroughs, which they contain, it will stand thus:

		Total
2 Antrim	1 Belfast 1 Carrickfergus 1 Lisburn	4
2 Armagh	1 Armagh (City)	3
2 Carlow	1 Carlow (Borough)	3
2 Cavan		2
2 Clare	1 Ennis (Borough)	3

		Total.
2 Cork	2 Cork (City) 1 Youghall (Borough) 1 Bandon Bridge 1 Kinsale 1 Mallow	8
2 Donegal		2
2 Down	1 Newry (Borough) 1 Downpatrick	4
2 Dublin	2 Dublin (City) 1 Dublin (University)	5
2 Fermanagh	1 Enniskillen (Borough)	3
2 Galway	1 Galway (Borough)	3
2 Kerry	1 Tralee (Borough)	3
2 Kildare		2
2 Kilkenny	1 Kilkenny (Borough)	3
2 King's County		2
2 Leitrim		2
2 Limerick	1 Limerick (City)	3
2 Londonderry	1 Londonderry (City) 1 Coleraine (Borough)	4
2 Longford		2
2 Louth	1 Drogheda (Borough) 1 Dundalk	4
2 Mayo		2
2 Meath		2
2 Monaghan		2
2 Queen's County	1 Portarlington (Borough)	3
2 Roscommon		2
2 Sligo	1 Sligo (Borough)	3
2 Tipperary	1 Clonmell (Borough) 1 Cashell (City)	4
2 Tyrone	1 Dungannon (Borough)	3
2 Waterford	1 Waterford (City) 1 Dungarvon (Borough)	4
2 Westmeath	1 Athlone (Borough)	3
2 Wexford	1 Wexford (Borough) 1 New Ross	4
2 Wicklow		2

ANTRIM.

THE qualification of freeholder is the same in Ireland as in England, a clear forty shillings interest for a life; but as it is customary in Ireland to insert lives in all leases, freeholders are created without the actual possession of property being considered as necessary, and their votes are considered as a right of the landlord. This system of creating votes in Ireland, is carried to an extent of which people in England can have no idea. The passion for acquiring political influence, prevails throughout the whole country; and it has an overwhelming influence upon the people; to divide and subdivide, for the purpose of making freeholders, is the great object of every owner of land; and Mr. Wakefield considers it as one of the most pernicious practices that has ever been introduced into the operations of political machinery. It reduces the elective franchise nearly to universal suffrage; to a population who, by the very instrument by which they are made free, are reduced to the most abject state of personal bondage. Mr. Wakefield has known freeholders registered among mountain tenantry, whose yearly head-rent did not exceed 2*s.* 6*d.*; but living upon this half-crown tenure, were enabled to swear to a derivation interest of forty shillings *per annum*. This right, instead of being an advantage to the freeholder, is an excessive burden, as he is obliged to attend elections at the command of the agent, often with great inconvenience; and is ordered to vote for the object of his landlord's choice, with as little ceremony as

the Jamaica planter would direct his slave to the performance of the meanest offices. Of this we have a striking and recent instance, in the case of Mr. Alcock, member for the county of Wexford, who challenged Mr. Colcough. The cause of this unfortunate quarrel was, that the latter refused to relinquish the votes of the tenantry of a Mrs. Cholmondely, who had written to her agent, to desire her tenants to vote for the former; but, notwithstanding this mandate, these poor people for once insisted on giving their suffrages to Sheridan and Colcough. Could Addison rise from his grave, what would be his opinion of such freeholders?* Mr. Wakefield has alluded to the above lamentable transaction, to shew what are the common feelings in Ireland on such occasions, and these ideas are not confined to the county where the fatal event took place to which he has alluded, they are universally throughout every part of the island.

After this information, the reader will not be surprised to learn that many counties are overruled in their choice by the will of some great territorial possessor; and there are few in which a coalition of two or three of the principal landholders will not settle the election according to their own views.

Antrim.—This county, which is in the province of Ulster, is about 46 miles long, 27 broad, and contains about 38,000 acres of land, 56 parishes, and about 30,314 houses, and 170,000 inha-

* See Addison's Freeholder, No. 1, London edit. 1758.

bitants. Most of the inhabitants are of Scotch extraction, and attached to the Presbyterian form of worship.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The Marquis of Hertford, and Marquis of Donegal, Earl O'Neil, and the Antrim family, whose property is now divided between two heiresses: the Countess of Antrim and Lady Mark Kerr, engrossed nearly the whole land of the county; and on their estates all the freeholds originate. The Marquis of Hertford, therefore, returns a member, with as much ease as the owner of Old Sarum sends one to the House of Commons; and nothing but an opposition on the part of the other three families, can create a contest. At present, Lord O'Neil's interest preponderates; and his brother represents the county.

PATRONS—Marquis of Hertford, and Earl O'Neil.

BELFAST.

IN 1798, this town contained 3,107 houses, and about 18,320 inhabitants. Here are considerable manufactures of cotton, cambric, sail cloth, and linen, and others of glass, sugar, earthenware, &c. It has a large exportation of butter and salt provisions.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The right of election is in twelve self-elected burgesses, under the patronage of the Marquis of Donegal, who returns a member of his own family.

PATRON—Marquis of Donegal.

CARRICKFERGUS,

THE assize town of the county of Antrim.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

It is a corporate town, but the number of burgesses is unlimited; and, besides these, the freeholders possess the right of suffrage. It may be considered an open place, although the Marquis of Donegal, and Marquis of Downshire have great influence, which, if united, would probably return the member.

LISBURN,

A TOWN in the county of Antrim, has a very considerable manufacture of linen cloth, and a good market.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This place belongs to the Marquis of Hertford. The right of election is vested in such of the inhabitants as occupy a tenement of five pounds *per annum*, and in freeholders of forty shillings, all of whom derive from the Marquis, at whose recommendation the member is returned.

PATRON—Marquis of Hertford.

ARMAGH.

THIS county is 32 miles in length, 170 in breadth, and is divided into 73 baronies, containing about 170,620 acres of land, about 22,900 houses, and 120,000 inhabitants.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The Earl of Gosford, and Mr. Brownlow, have immense estates in this county; and although they do not possess a commanding interest, will probably continue to exercise so much influence, that the members returned will be gentlemen of their choice. Earl Charlemont, and Mr. Cope, are the owners of large estates here; but they do not possess power equal to the proprietors abovementioned.

PATRONS—Earl of Gosford, and Wm. Brownlow, esq.

ARMAGH, the city which gives name to the county, was once a very considerable place, but now is only a village. In 1142, it was constituted an archbishopric by Cardinal Papyreo, with the consent of the king's nobility, and states of Ireland.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The election here is in twelve burgesses elected by themselves.

PATRON—Archbishop of Armagh.

CARLOW.

THIS county contains 220,098 English acres of land, 50 parishes, and 8,763 houses, and 44,000 inhabitants.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

Mr. Cavannah of Borris, has votes sufficient to return one member; the election of the other will

be contested between the Latouche, Brewen, and Burton families.

PATRON—Mr. Cavannah of Borris, one member.

CARLOW, the county town, stands on the east side of the river Barrow, by which it communicates with Waterford river and the grand canal.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The right of election is in twelve burgesses, who elect each other.

PATRON—Earl of Charleville.

CAVAN

Is about 47 miles long, and 24 broad, containing 30 parishes, about 16,134 houses, and 81,570 inhabitants. The linen manufacture is carried on here to a great extent.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

Were the freeholders of this county registered, they would amount at least to 6,000, but one half neglect to enrol their names. Here there is but one Roman catholic proprietor, Mr. Dease; yet, in the population, the catholics bear to the protestants the proportion of five to one. The protestant land-owner directs the Roman catholic freeholders at every election. Of the 3,000 registered freeholders, 700 are under the Earl of Farnham, and 300 under Colonel Barry, his cousin; it may therefore be remarked, that Lord Farnham

commands the return of the member. The other is independent; but the protestant interest prevails in the election of one who is to vote against the catholic claims.

PATRON—Earl of Farnham, one member.

CLARE

CONTAINS two market towns, 79 parishes, and about 96,000 inhabitants.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The Earl of Conyngham, and the family of Sir Edward O'Brien, have freeholders sufficient to return the members for this county. A contest may arise, from the latter endeavouring to return both the members; but the elective influence must always remain between the two families.

PATRONS—Earl of Conyngham, and Sir Edward O'Brien.

ENNIS.

ENNIS, in Clare, as it is sometimes called, the county town of Clare, or Thomond, is very large and populous.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This borough has twelve self-elected burgesses, who choose the member.

PATRON—Sir Edward O'Brien, and James Fitzgerald, esq., alternately.

CORK.

THIS county contains 232 villages, 76,739 houses, and 416,000 inhabitants. It is remarkably fertile, and produces corn, vegetables, cattle, &c.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The popularity of the Earl of Shannon, and the property he possesses, give him influence sufficient to return one member. This county is so large, that it is not possible for the freeholders of any individual to command the election of a representative. It contains one million of acres, and 20,000 persons entitled to vote. In so extensive a district, there are many owners of very considerable estates, besides Lord Shannon, Lady Kingston, Mr. Hyde, Mr. Aldworth, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Newenham, Mr. Anderson, and several others, all of whom have a great number of tenants, so that the independence of one member, at least, is likely to be secured.

PATRON—Earl of Shannon, one member.

CORK.

CORK, the capital of the county of the same name, is a sea-port, and supposed to contain about 8,600 houses, and near 100,000 inhabitants. In trade and commerce it exceeds any other town in Ireland.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The Earl of Donoughmore, Mountiford Longfield, esq., and Mr. Newenham, have the prevailing interest in the election for this city; that of Lord Donoughmore and Mr. Longfield are coexistent with religious parties; and as these parties, whether in or out, have exercised the immense patronage annexed to this great emporium of Ireland, it may readily be conceived that the state of politics here is subject to considerable variation. The members of the corporation are numerous, and among them are six or seven hundred who are unyielding protestants. The freeholders within the precincts of the city have the right of voting, but the majority are catholics. Mr. Newenham's interest arises from his being owner of a great part of the city; and whenever he exerts his influence, if united with that of the Earl of Cork, who has a large estate under similar circumstances, it is sufficient to return a member. In the strong contests between the two other interests, he has hitherto taken no part; and when the leases on his estate are expired, which will soon be the case, it is probable that his intimacy with the noble families will induce him to remain neuter.

Of the last general election in 1812, there was a contest for this city, when the numbers at the final close of the poll were, for Mountiford Longfield, esq. 918—Sir Nicholas Conway Colthurst, bart. 699—Hon. C. H. Hutchinson 639.

PATRONS—Earl of Donoughmore and Mountiford Longfield, esq.

YOUGHALL

Is a considerable town in the county of Cork. The harbour is very commodious, and has a convenient quay. The town has a considerable export trade, and a good market.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This is a close corporation, under the influence of the Earl of Shannon. An attempt has lately been made to procure the right of voting for freeholders, in which case the Duke of Devonshire would return the member.

PATRON—Earl of Shannon.

BANDON BRIDGE.

A MARKET-TOWN in the county of Cork, on the river Bandon, over which it has a bridge. This town was erected in 1610, in the midst of an impassable bog, by Richard Boyle, first Earl of Cork. It was at first inhabited by protestants. Here are a considerable number of manufacturers of cotton, camblets, ticking, &c. It contains about 12,000 inhabitants.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

It has twelve burgesses, who elect each other.

PATRON—Earl of Bandon.

KINSALE

Is a town in the county of Cork, seated on the river Bandon. It is a populous and commercial place, and has a deep and secure harbour.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This borough has also twelve burgesses who elect each other.

PATRON—Lord de Clifford.

MALLOW

Is a considerable town in the county of Cork, seated on the river Blackwater. It has a good market.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The electors are the tenants of the manor, belonging to Mr. Jephson.

PATRON—Mr. Jephson.

DONEGAL

Is a county of the province of Ulster, about 68 miles in length, and 36 in breadth, and containing 42 parishes, 23,531 houses, and 140,000 inhabitants. It has many excellent harbours, and several extensive linen manufactories have been established.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The Earl of Conyngham and the Marquis of Abercorn have freeholders sufficient to return the members for this county: but the Marquis of Donegal possesses an estate, which, if managed, would give him an influence sufficiently powerful to enable him to succeed against either of them. There are 9000 freeholders in the county, and Lord Southwell is the only Roman Catholic proprietor in it. The chief land-owners are absentees; but under this head are comprehended persons who, although absentees from the county, live in Ireland.

PATRONS—The Marquis of Abercorn and Earl of Conyngham.

DOWN.

A COUNTY in the province of Ulster. It is about 42 miles in length, and 34 in breadth. It contains 72 parishes, and is computed to have about 36,656 houses and 204,500 inhabitants. In this county are numerous bleach-greens, and an abundance of neat habitations, with an orchard to almost every cottage. Its trade in the linen manufactory is averaged annually at 152,000*l.*

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

It contains 30,000 freeholders, who elect the friends of the Marquis of Downshire without a contest. To ensure this object, the Marquis's estate has been divided, sub-divided, and again divided, until it has become a *warren* of free-

holders, and the scheme has completely succeeded. The landed property of this nobleman exhibits, perhaps, the best specimen of political *agronomy** to be found in Ireland, and is a proof of the ingenuity of those by whom it was planned.†

PATRON—Marquis of Downshire.

NEWRY,

A CONSIDERABLE town and sea-port in the county of Down, situated on the side of a steep hill, at the foot of which is the Newry Water, 49 miles north of Dublin.

---

* As this word may not be understood, perhaps, by every reader, I must remark, that it is derived from the Greek, in which ἀγρονομια signifies a distribution or division of land.

† A similar system of division was pursued, about thirty years ago, by some of the Scotch peers, particularly in the north, for the purpose of acquiring parliamentary influence: they assigned over certain portions of their land, at its valued rent, to their factors, to clergymen, and other dependents, sufficient to qualify them as freeholders, receiving security that the land should revert to its real owner on their death, or at a specified period. This iniquitous practice, in which *grave ministers of the kirk* condescended to become the instruments of corruption, was carried to a most extraordinary height: but, if I am rightly informed, the votes of such *freeholders* were questioned as being illegal, and in some cases brought before the Court of Session at Edinburgh, and the whole system overturned. Johnson, in answer to a letter of Boswell, who, alluding to this practice, had consulted him, "Whether the unconstitutional influence exercised by the peers of Scotland, in the election of the representatives of the Commons, by means of fictitious qualifications, ought not to be resisted?" says, "the usurpation of the nobility, for they apparently usurp all the influence they gain by fraud and misrepresentation, I think it certainly lawful, perhaps your duty, to resist. What is not their own, they have only by robbery." *Boswell's Life of Johnson*, vol. iv., p. 265, 266.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

General Needham derives considerable interest from his being owner of the turbary adjoining to the town; but it is not sufficient to command the return, though he is the present member. At the last general election there was a contest, when the numbers were, for the Hon. Francis Needham 346—Henry Curran 144.

PATRON—the Hon. Francis Needham.

DOWNPATRICK,

THE county town of Down, is seated on the river Newry. It is a borough and market-town. Near it are the ruins of an ancient cathedral, remarkable for containing the tomb of St. Patrick, its founder.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

Inhabitants who occupy tenements of five pounds *per annum*, and freeholders of forty shillings, all have votes. Lord de Clifford is owner of the principal part of the town, and is also the patron; his lordship, however, has been unfortunate in the choice of his agents, whose families have now acquired property and influence sufficient to enable them to form a commanding opposition to his interest at every election.

In 1812, there was a contest for this borough, when, at the final close of the poll, the numbers were, for Charles Stewart Hawthorne, esq. 159—John Wilson Croker, esq. 124.

PATRON—Lord de Clifford.

DUBLIN.

A COUNTY in the province of Leinster, being about 25 miles long and 16 broad; containing 107 parishes, four market-towns, 26,000 houses, and 208,000 inhabitants.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The freeholders of this metropolitan county are too numerous, and too opulent, to be subject to the influence of any individual.

DUBLIN,

THE metropolis of Ireland, is situated at the bottom of a large bay, and divided by the river Liffey into two nearly equal parts. Its form is nearly that of a square of two miles and a half in extent each way, containing two cathedrals, 18 parish churches, two chapels of ease, 15 Roman Catholic chapels, a church for French Calvinists, a Danish and Dutch church, a Jewish synagogue, and numerous meeting-houses, besides about 17,000 houses, inhabited by 190,000 persons, including the garrison. The streets bear a near resemblance to those of London. The city is in like manner supplied with water by means of pipes. Dublin is an archiepiscopal see, and returns, with the university and county, five members to Parliament. The civil government is vested in a lord-mayor, recorder, two sheriffs, 24 aldermen, and a common-council. Besides the silk, woollen, and wors-

ted manufactures, carried on chiefly in the suburb, called the Earl of Meath's Liberty, many other useful branches of manufacture have been established of late, and the trade is altogether daily increasing. The circular road which surrounds the city commences at the east end of the town, on one side of the river, terminates on the opposite shore, and is about 12 miles in length. This road forms a very agreeable ride, and is much frequented. It is the boundary of the jurisdiction of the new police guard, consisting of 40 horsemen and 400 foot, regularly armed, who patrole the streets in small parties, and have sentinels at proper stations. The different markets are well supplied with flesh, fowl, and fish; the latter in greater perfection than in any other capital in Europe.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The corporation, forming a large body of wealthy citizens, and the freeholders being numerous and respectable, they are in the same situation as the electors of the county, and cannot be controlled.

DUBLIN UNIVERSITY.

TRINITY College, the university of Dublin, consists of a provost, vice-provost, seven senior, and 15 junior fellows, 17 scholars of the house, and about 400 students.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The member for the university is not required to exhibit any landed qualification, and is chosen by the fellows and students: the latter form by

far the majority. Being young men of liberal education, inspired with that honest boldness, and warmed with that patriotic zeal which are peculiar to youth, they are independent in their choice, and return the man whom they consider most worthy of their confidence.

FERMANAGH,

A COUNTY in the province of Ulster, is about 35 miles long, and 25 in breadth, containing 19 parishes, and about 12,000 houses, inhabited by 72,000 persons. The county is navigable throughout, by means of the lake of Lough Erne; but the hilly, rugged, and uneven face of the country, and the numerous bogs, render it difficult for travelling. The linen manufacture, and raising of cattle, is the chief occupation of the inhabitants. The water of Lough Erne, is said to have the property of accelerating the bleaching of linen cloth. This county abounds with flax, and has one good linen market.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

There are in this county three immense territorial possessions, which belong to the Earl of Enniskillen, Mr. Brooke, and Mr. Archdall. These families may contest the representation among themselves; but no other influence can interfere with their views; if unanimous, they may return whom they choose. The freeholders amount to 5,000. The Earl of Enniskillen, and Mr. Archdall, at present return the members.

PATRONS—The Earl of Enniskillen, and Mr. Archdall.

ENNISKILLEN,

A MARKET town in the county of Fermanagh, is pleasantly situated on an island, in a narrow strait between the two parts of Lough Erne.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This is the county town, and has twelve self-elected burgesses.

PATRON—The Earl of Enniskillen.

GALWAY,

A COUNTY in the province of Connaught, is about 82 miles long, and 42 broad; and containing 116 parishes, 28 churches, about 28,212 houses, and 142,000 inhabitants.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

Here there is no commanding territorial interest. The Roman catholic landed property is very extensive, and will always return members disposed to support that interest. The freeholders amount to about 4,000.

GALWAY,

THE county town, is pleasantly and advantageously situated for foreign trade, on the bay of Galway, in the Atlantic ocean. The northern side is foul and dangerous for vessels, but on the south it is very safe; yet none but vessels of small burthen can come up to the town. This

harbour is defended by a strong fort. The town is surrounded with strong walls, and is governed by a mayor, sheriffs, and recorder. The salmon and herring fishery is carried on in Galway with great spirit, and employs several hundred boats; it has also a considerable trade in making and exporting kelp, and of late years the linen manufactures have been considerably improved.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The freeholders within this borough, and the members of the corporation, elect its representative. The corporators are chosen at will, and are at present under the patronage of the Right Hon. Denis B. Daly, and James Daly, esq,, of Dunsandale; consequently, these gentlemen return the member alternately. Respecting this borough, the following anecdote has been related to us; we do not however vouch for its authenticity. The patron, on the approach of an election, finding that an opposition was to be made to his interest, marched a regiment of soldiers into the town, from Loughrea, where they were quartered, and where he caused them to be elected freemen. These military freemen voted for his friend, who was of course returned.

PATRONS—The Right Hon. Denis B. Daly, and James Daly, esq., alternately.

KERRY,

A COUNTY in the province of Munster, is about 54 miles long, and from 18 to 40 broad; containing 84 parishes, and about 19,400 houses, and 107,000 inhabitants. The county town is Tralee. It possesses many excellent harbours, and the southern district is plain and fertile; but a large part of it is full of mountains, almost inaccessible, so that little corn is produced, and grazing is the chief management of the farmer. Considerable quantities of beef, butter, hides, and tallow, are exported from hence. Most of the southern parts produce iron ore, and it contains several medicinal springs.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The influence of Lord Kenmare, returns both the members for this county. I do not mean to insinuate, that any two gentlemen nominated by him will, of necessity, be elected; but his lordship being nearly related to Mr. Herbert, and in intimate habits of friendship with Earl Glandore, no individual would consider it prudent to oppose a candidate supported by so formidable an interest, which could influence the numerous freeholders on the estates of these three great proprietors.

PATRON—Lord Kenmare.

TRALEE,

THE shire town of the county of Kerry, province of Munster, tolerably well built, but has no manufactories of any consequence. The bay is

very shallow, and will not admit of vessels of 40 or 50 tons to come nearer than within one mile of the town. A considerable trade is carried on here in the herring fishery.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This borough has twelve self-elected burgesses.

PATRON—Sir Edward Denny.

KILDARE,

A COUNTY in the province of Leinster, about 33 miles long, and from 12 to 21 broad, contains 11,200 houses, about 60,000 inhabitants, and about 100 parishes. It is a very fine, fertile, and arable country. The assizes are held alternately at Athy and Naas. Here are several cotton manufactories.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The Duke of Leinster is proprietor of 70,000 acres in this county, being one third of the whole superficies. A number of freeholders, therefore, sufficient to return one member, is created, and also to give the proprietor a considerable influence in the election of the other.

PATRON—Duke of Leinster, one member.

KILKENNY,

A PROVINCE in the county of Leinster, is about 35 miles long, and 18 broad, contains 127 parishes, about 17,750 houses, and 100,000 inhabtants. The surface is in general level, and the soil fertile,

producing good corn. Wool is a considerable branch of trade here.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The Earl of Ormonde, and the Earl of Bessborough, through their influence, each return a member for this county.

PARTONS—The Earl of Ormonde, and Earl of Bessborough, one each.

KILKENNY.

THIS city, seated on the river Nore, is one of the neatest and most pleasant towns in the kingdom, and consists of two parts, called the *Irish* and the *English* town, both joined together; and containing about 17,000 inhabitants. The manufactures carried on here, are chiefly those of coarse woollens, blankets of extraordinary fine quality, and starch.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The Earl of Ormonde, and the Earl of Desart, have the commanding influence over the corporation, who can create an unlimited number of freemen. The freeholders in the borough also, have the right of suffrage, but their titles are derived from the tenures under Lord Ormonde.

In 1812, there was an opposition to this joint interest, when the number of voters appeared to be 18: there being

For Overington Blunden, esq.—14
——————— Coles, esq.——— 4

PATRONS—Earl of Ormonde and Earl of Desart, alternately.

KING'S COUNTY,

A COUNTY in the province of Leinster, so called after Philip of Spain, the husband of Queen Mary, being about 30 miles long and 20 broad. It contains 52 parishes, 13,536 houses, and 74,500 inhabitants. The capital of the county is Philipstown. The principal manufacture carried on here is that of linen, consisting of dowlas, sheeting, &c. which is in an increasing state.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The brothers-in-law of the Earl of Charleville and Earl of Ross are the present members for this county. With Lord Ashtown, the cousin of the former, they have large territorial possessions here, on which a majority of the freeholders derive their titles.

PATRONS—the Earl of Charleville and the Earl of Ross.

LEITRIM,

A COUNTY in the province of Connaught, being about 42 miles long and from 6 to 16 broad, contains 21 parishes. The northern parts are mountainous, but furnish food for a great number of young cattle; the northern parts are level, and the soil fertile. The linen manufacture serves to increase population, and the lands in general are well cultivated. Some considerable iron-works

have lately been established at Arigna. The county town is Carrick.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

There are no gentlemen of large fortune resident in this county; the members are returned by the successful influence of extensive territorial property in the families of Clements and Latouche.

In 1812 there was a contest for this county, when the numbers at the close of the poll were as follow:—For John Latouche, esq. 2,168—Henry John Clements, esq. 1,298—Luke White, esq. 1,213.

PATRONS—Henry John Clements and John Latouche, esqrs.

LIMERICK,

A COUNTY in the province of Munster, is about 40 miles long, and from 17 to 25 broad, containing 125 parishes, and about 170,000 inhabitants. It is watered by several rivers, but principally by the Shannon and the Maig. The south-east and south-west parts of the county are very mountainous, and not productive, but the remainder is fertile and particularly rich in pasture, most of the fine cattle slaughtered at Cork being its produce.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The Earl of Clare can recommend one member; the other may be considered as independent, except as far as relates to the influence of the Roman

catholic party; which, in questions where their interest is concerned, must command the return of the members. Without detracting from the merit of the present representatives, with one of whom, Mr. Quin, I have the honour of being acquainted, and for whom, from my knowledge of his excellent character, I entertain as favourable an opinion as his constituents; I cannot help regretting the loss which the county has sustained, by the secession of Mr. Oliver, who has found it inconvenient to attend to his parliamentary duties in England. This gentleman was returned by the voice of independence; he served his constituents with fidelity; and, with an integrity rarely to be found in the present venal age; he consequently resigned his seat rather than neglect his duties. He is now enjoying, in the bosom of his family, the tranquil joys of domestic life; possessed of that happiness which arises from conscious rectitude, and followed in his retreat by the good wishes of all who know how to appreciate his worth. His inccorruptible patriotism, and desire to promote every useful undertaking, will be long remembered by those who looked up to him as their best benefactor. In him the county of Limerick could boast of a representative whose character might be ranked with those of a Martin, a Saville, a Hussey, or a Beckford. In this county there are 3,000 freeholders.

PATRON—Earl of Clare, one member.

LIMERICK,

A CITY in the county of Limerick and province of Munster. It is about three miles in circumference, and contains about 5,000 houses, and 40,000 inhabitants. It is a county of itself, and is divided into the Irish and the English town. Its commerce has kept pace with its size. The linen, woollen, and paper manufactures, are carried on here to a considerable extent, and it has also a considerable share in the exportation of provisions. The country round it is fertile and pleasant, but the air is generally moist.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The corporation of the city possess the power of making an indefinite number of freemen, which throws it under the influence of Mr. Pendergrast Smyth, whose tenants at Gore, in the county of Galway, are freemen of Limerick.

PATRON—Pendergrast Smyth, esq.

LONDONDERRY,

A COUNTY in the province of Ulster, is 32 miles in length, and about 30 in breadth, comprises 31 parishes, and contains about 25,000 houses and 125,000 inhabitants. In various parts there are very extensive linen manufactories.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The greater part of this county has been granted to the twelve companies of the corporation of London, who have again let their estates on freehold leases. At present, the Beresford family have on lease three of these proportions, which enables them to return one member. The Earl of Londonderry and his brother, Mr. A. Stewart, possess two more, and have hitherto succeeded in returning the other; but a Mr. Ogilby has created so great a number of freeholders, on a lease granted to him by the Skinners' Company, that, combined with the interest he can procure from the Ponsonby family, who hold another of these proportions, and from Sir William Rowley, he will succeed most probably in the representation of the county.

PATRONS—Marquis of Waterford, Earl of Londonderry, and Mr. Ogilby.

LONDONDERRY,

THE capital and county town of the county of Derry, was built by a company of London adventurers, in the reign of James I., and consists of two principal streets, which intersect each other. In the centre of the town is an exchange; and it has also a commodious market-house.

POLITICAL CHA

This city belongs to the iety. Mr. J. C. Beresford is their oorge Hill

flat, but towards the north rather mountainous. The river Shannon passes through the more level part of it, which is sometimes liable to be overflowed. It has a very extensive share in the linen trade.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The Oxmantown estate returns one member; the election of the other is liable to be contested between Sir Thomas Newcomen and the Earl of Granard. Lord Longford has large property in this county, but does not attempt to exercise any political influence.

PATRONS—Earl of Ross and Earl of Granard.

LOUTH,

A COUNTY in the province of Leinster, about 22 miles long, and from 9 to 14 broad; containing 61 parishes, 11,500 houses, and about 57,750 inhabitants. The chief towns are Dundalk, Carlingford, Drogheda, Ardee, and Dunleer. It is the smallest county in the kingdom, but is very fertile, pleasant, and healthy.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The influence of the Earl of Roden and the Right Hon. John Foster certainly commands the return in the county.

PATRONS—Earl of Roden and the Right Hon. John Foster.

DROGHEDA,

A SEA-PORT and county of itself, containing a population of 20,000 persons, in the county of Louth and province of Leinster.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This borough contains a large corporation, and a numerous body of freeholders, subject to no other control than that which must always arise from gentlemen spending their incomes in a liberal manner among the people.

DUNDALK

Is a sea-port, and the assize town of the county of Louth, in the province of Leinster. It is most advantageously situated for an extensive inland trade, and has a very commodious and safe port, through which it carries on an extensive trade. The bay also has good mooring, and abounds with fish. Dundalk has a market-house, and maintains a considerable manufacture of muslins, linens, and cambrics.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This borough is a close corporation.

PATRON—Earl of Roden.

MAYO,

A COUNTY in the province of Connaught, is about 50 miles long and 44 broad; containing 68 parishes, about 27,970 houses and 140,000 inhabitants. The western coast is mountainous, and scarcely inhabited, but the interior produces excellent pasturage, and is watered by several lakes and rivers. On the coast there are some good harbours. Mayo, which was the county town, is gone to decay. Its chief town now is Ballinrobe, but the assizes are held at Castle-bar.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The Marquis of Sligo, and Lord Viscount Dillon, have each estates large enough to create freeholders sufficiently numerous to elect one member. Lord Tyrawley had a powerful interest in this county, but it appears to have gradually declined: his son, Mr. Cuffe, bears a most honourable character; and we believe there are many in the county who would be happy to see him filling that public situation, to which it was expected he would be raised by the suffrages of the electors.

PATRONS—Marquis of Sligo and Lord Viscount Dillon.

MEATH,

A COUNTY in the province of Leinster, is about 30 miles long from north to south, and from 25 to

35 broad from east to west; containing 147 parishes, about 22,468 houses and 112,400 inhabitants. The country is extremely fertile and pleasant, abounding with crops, and gives pasturage to innumerable flocks and herds of cattle. There is a considerable manufacture of coarse linens established in different parts of the county. Trim is the county town.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This county contains 4,000 freeholders. The Marquis of Headfort and the Earl of Darnley, when their influence is united, can return one member: the election of the other will depend on the Roman catholic interest, which is powerful, as many gentlemen of that persuasion reside here, at the head of whom is that justly respected nobleman the Earl of Fingal. According to present circumstances, it is most probable that the catholics will support the friend of the Earl of Darnley in preference to the son of the Marquis of Headfort, the Earl of Darnley having refused an appointment under an administration which is inimical to catholic emancipation, whilst the Marquis of Headfort has accepted one. Should the catholics be divided in their support of one candidate, it will, perhaps, enable the protestant interest to start a new one, who may be successful, whilst the other interest is divided.

PATRON—Marquis of Headfort, one member.

MONAGHAN,

A COUNTY in the province of Ulster, nearly the same as Cavan in length and breadth.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

Though the majority of the population is Roman catholic, this county, as is the case in Cavan, is controlled in the choice of representatives by protestant land-owners, who return gentlemen whose political opinions are known to be unfavourable to the catholic cause. There is no individual prevailing interest in the county.

QUEEN'S COUNTY,

A COUNTY in the province of Leinster, being about 25 miles square, containing 50 parishes, and about 15,048 houses, and 82,000 inhabitants. The capital of the county is Maryborough.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The Earl of Portarlington, Lord Viscount de Vesci, and Sir Henry Parnell, are all related, and have upon their estates a band of freeholders sufficient to return one member. The other is independent. The freeholders amount to 2,600, of these 250 belong to Lord de Vesci, and 400 to the Earl of Portarlington; so that, with the number

under the Parnell influence, they can count altogether 1,000.

PATRONS—Earl of Portarlington, Lord de Vesci, and Sir Henry Parnell.

PORTARLINGTON,

A TOWN partly situated in King's, and partly in Queen's county, province of Leinster, and pleasantly seated on the river Barrow.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This borough has twelve self-elected burgesses. At the time of the Union, Mr. French, now Lord Ashtown, was the member. On his being created a peer, the Right Hon. Isaac Corry, the then chancellor of the exchequer, was returned. This gentleman should have been elected for Armagh, in the room of Dr. Duigenan, who was disposed, and perfectly ready to resign his seat. This was one of those political manœuvres which are so frequently practised to answer certain purposes; and we could unveil the whole mystery, did not motives of delicacy restrain us from wounding the feelings of some, whose grey hairs shall be suffered to sink into the grave undisturbed by any animadversion from our pens.

PATRON—Earl of Portarlington.

ROSCOMMON,

Is a county in the province of Connaught, being about 47 miles in length, and from 9 to 29 in breadth, containing 17,140 houses and 86,000 inhabitants. It is a fruitful county, and yields excellent corn, as well as pasturage, yet there are some extensive bogs; the face of the country is tolerably level, having but few hills. The chief town is Athlone, but the assizes are held at Roscommon, the shire town.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

Here the Roman catholic interest again prevails, and is increasing. Mr. French has an immense property; but his influence arises rather from the liberality of his conduct in his intercourse with society than from the number of freeholders created on his estates.

PATRON—Arthur French, esq., one member.

SLIGO,

Is a county in the province of Connaught, 25 miles in length and 32 in breadth. It contains 39 parishes, about 11,500 houses and 60,000 inhabitants. Besides Sligo, which is the principal town, there are many considerable villages in which the linen manufacture flourishes.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This county is chiefly absentee property: Mr. Cowper and Mr. Wynne possess very powerful influence in this county: but Mr. O'Hara was started on an independent interest: he is a gentleman of ancient family in this part of Ireland, which gives him so much weight, that he is continued representative, in preference to the rich and powerful families above-named. Without derogating from the merit of either of the present representatives, I must state, that Mr. Wynne is as proper a choice for a county member as any person in the united empire. If a high and dignified sense of honour, inflexible integrity, close application to business, an ardent zeal for the interest of one's native country, displayed in cultivating its soil and improving its inhabitants, can create esteem and respect, then ought this gentleman to have a seat in Parliament, where the assistance of his talents and experience, at this perilous time, might be of essential service. As a great landed proprietor, he spreads civilization around him by residing on his estate, and spending a princely income among his tenants; as a father, in the bosom of a numerous and happy family, who respect and adore him, he sets an example which cannot fail of having a beneficial influence on his servants, neighbours, and dependents; as a magistrate discharging the duties of that important office with strict attention to impartial justice, he is enabled to repress disorder, and to maintain peace and tranquillity. Happy would it be for Ireland, if all her wealthy sons were guided by the same prin-

ciples, and actuated by the like zeal! If the absentees of the county of Sligo, who have freeholders at command, were sensible of their own interest, they would not be long in deliberating to whom they ought to give their influence and support, when a vacancy in their representation takes place.

PATRON—E. S. Cowper, esq., one member.

SLIGO.

THE county town of Sligo is seated on a bay of the same name; in 1788 it contained 916 houses and 8,000 inhabitants. It carries on a considerable trade; its rivers being navigable for vessels of 1,200 tons up to the very town quays.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This borough has twelve self-elected burgesses.

PATRON—Owen Wynne, esq.

TIPPERARY,

A COUNTY lying in the province of Munster, is about 52 miles in length, and from 12 to 31 in breadth. It contains 147 parishes, 30,700 houses, and about 170,000 inhabitants. The principal productions are cattle, sheep, butter, and flour. The county town is Clonmel, and the other principal towns are Cashel and Carrick.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

Lord Landaff has 26,000*l.* *per annum* in this county, and can return one member. United as are his lordship's opinions with the Roman catholic interest, he can greatly assist in bringing in another. Mr. Prittie, the other member, now votes with the catholic interest. His family, and that of Lord Donally, formerly supported the protestant party; and his return, notwithstanding his numerous family connections in this extensive county, was produced more by the opposition to Mr. Bagwell, than by any prevailing interest which he possesses. The freeholders are 12,000.

PATRON—Lord Llandaff, one member.

CLONMELL

Is an improving town, in the county of Tipperary, province of Munster, pleasantly situated on the river Suir. It is governed by a mayor, recorder, bailiffs, and town-clerk. The river is navigable from hence to Carrick and Waterford, and it has a considerable trade in the woollen branch, particularly by the Quakers, who are very numerous here.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This is a close corporation, under the influence of Mr. Bagwell, who is the patron of the borough.

PATRON—Right Hon. William Bagwell.

CASHELL

Is a city in the county of Tipperary, Munster, three miles from the river Suir. It is tolerably well built, containing about 600 houses, having a handsome market-house, sessions-house, county infirmary, charter school, and a barrack. It is governed by a mayor, recorder, and bailiffs.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This city has twelve self-elected burgesses.

PATRON—Richard Pennefather, esq.

TYRONE,

A COUNTY in the province of Ulster, is about 44 miles in length, and from 18 to 33 in breadth, containing 35 parishes, and about 28,700 inhabitants. The soil is various: in some parts it is exceedingly rich and fertile, and in others rough and mountainous, but on the whole, cultivation has been much improved of late years. Near Dungannon are several colleries, and in its neighbourhood, as well as at Cookstown and Stewartown, are several extensive bleach-fields. The assize town is Omagh.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

In this county there are 20,000 freeholders. The independent interest prevails in returning one member, and the Marquis of Abercorn hopes to nominate the other.

PATRON—Marquis of Abercorn, one member.

DUNGANNON

Is an ancient town in the county of Tyrone, and province of Ulster. In the neighbourhood are several coal mines.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This borough has twelve burgesses.

PATRON—Lord Viscount Northland.

WATERFORD,

A COUNTY in the province of Munster, is in length about 46 miles, and in breadth 28; containing 34 parishes, about 18,796 houses, and 110,000 inhabitants. This county presents a diversity of soil and prospect, but in general is extremely pleasant and fertile, producing excellent corn and pasturage.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The influence of the Marquis of Waterford has succeeded in returning his kinsman, the gallant Marshal Beresford, who has not a place of residence in the county. The Roman catholic interest elects the other. The Duke of Devonshire, whose estate is very extensive, might, were it under only tolerable management, return both members. The freeholders are 3,000.

PATRON—Marquis of Waterford, one member.

WATERFORD

Is a city and sea-port town, and capital of the county of the same name, province of Munster; containing about 35,000 inhabitants. It has an excellent harbour, commodiously situated for trade, and vessels of the largest burthen can ride up to the quay. It stands on the banks of the Suir, which is a broad, deep, and rapid river, five miles from its junction with the Nore and Barrow. Upwards of 70 sail of shipping are employed in the Newfoundland trade, and it is computed that about 3,000 hogs have been killed here weekly, and cured, chiefly for the supply of the royal navy. Much butter is also exported hence, say 70,000 casks *per annum*; besides which, the commerce in beef, corn, linen, and with the mother country, is very great. The white glass and other manufactures are also in a very flourishing state. The quay is above half a mile in length, and of considerable breadth. Packet-boats sail regularly between this port aud Milford Haven.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The corporation of this city, like those of Limerick, Galway, &c., was supposed to possess the power of creating an unlimited number of freemen; and, in that case, the representation of the city would have been under the alternate influence of Mr. Bolton and Mr. Alcock. Sir John Newport, a banker in this city, who was never a member of the Irish Parliament, prevailed in a petition against Mr. Alcock, the votes being confined to resident freemen and freeholders.

DUNGARVON

Is a tolerably well built town, in the county of Waterford and province of Munster. It has a very commodious harbour, and supplies Dublin with fish, and great quantities of potatoes.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The Duke of Devonshire and the Marquis of Waterford, have each large property in this town, and the right of suffrage being vested in the freeholders on their estates, the elections give rise to violent contests between these noble families; the Duke of Devonshire, however, returns the member.

PATRON—Duke of Devonshire.

WESTMEATH,

A COUNTY in the province of Leinster, is 38 miles long and 21 broad, contains 62 parishes, about 13,700 houses, and 70,000 inhabitants. It is in general very fertile, particularly in pasturage, the greatest attention being paid to the grazing and dairy farming, notwithstanding which, it produces much more corn than serves for the consumption of its population. The chief town is Mullingar, which is the second great fair in Ireland for wool. The assizes for this county are held at Mullingar.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The protestant land-owners in this county command the Roman catholic tenantry. The residence of Lord Longford, his great popularity, and the high esteem in which the Pakenham family are held, adds so much weight to his so honourably acquired influence, that he returns one member: notwithstanding which, Mr. Rochfort and the protestant interest are, perhaps, more certain of success with the other seat.

In 1812, there was a contest for this county, when the numbers at the close of the poll were:

For the Right Hon. Hercules Pakenham 737—Gustavus Hume Rochfort 696. —— Tighe, esq. 287. —— Tighe, jun., esq. 32.

PATRONS—Earl of Longford and Gustavus Hume Rochfort, esq.

ATHLONE,

A TOWN partly situated in the county of Westmeath, and partly in Roscommon, stands on the river Shannon. Although this town is so advantageously situated for trade and improvement, it yet remains in many parts in a poor, ruinous, and filthy state.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This borough has twelve self-elected burgesses.

PATRON—the Right Hon. William Handcock.

WEXFORD,

A COUNTY lying in the province of Munster, is about 39 miles in length and 20 in breadth; containing 109 parishes. Its principal rivers are the Barrow and Slaney. This county, though not in general mountainous, contains a large proportion of coarse, cold land and stiff clay; notwithstanding, many parts are very fertile, and produce excellent grass and corn.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

Lord Mountmorris has great influence in the election of the representatives of this county. The case is the same with the Marquis of Ely. The Roman catholics, however, are numerous, powerful, and active; and of course impatiently submit to the thraldom of having their representatives nominated by protestant peers; but I am sorry to say, that their intemperate zeal has, on some occasions, been carried to excess. On the vacancy occasioned by the present Marquis of Ely coming to that title, they succeeded in returning Mr. Cæsar Colclough, though great doubt still exists whether there was any such person in being; if he were alive, he was then a prisoner in France. On the next vacancy, they returned Mr. Carew, a choice which reflects honour on their discernment, as the talents and integrity of this gentleman would render him an ornament to any assembly. This county is the only one in Ireland where the tenants have displayed the courage to

act in opposition to their landlords. On some occasions this had been the case; but it is merely from a religious principle, as they have no other political system to support, than that which promotes the interest and success of the Catholic faith.

PATRONS—Marquis of Ely and Lord Viscount Mountmorris, one member.

WEXFORD

Is a sea-port and the principal town in the county of Wexford, seated at the mouth of the river Slaney, and contains about 9,000 inhabitants. In the town and neighbourhood are several extensive woollen manufactures. The Barons of Forth, which adjoins this town, whose inhabitants are descendants of its ancient British colony, still retain the language, manners, and customs of their origin.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This borough has twelve self-elected burgesses.

PATRONS—the Marquis of Ely and Richard Neville, esq., alternately. The latter is teller of the Exchequer.

NEW ROSS

Is a populous thriving town in the county of Wexford, on the river Barrow. It has a considerable traffic in the export of provisions. The river is navigable for large vessels up to the quays, and forms an excellent harbour.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

This borough has twelve self-elected burgesses.

PATRONS—Mr. Tottenham and Mr. Lee alternately.

WICKLOW,

A COUNTY lying in the province of Leinster, is about 30 miles in length, and from 15 to 26 in breadth, containing 58 parishes, 11,600 houses, and about 58,000 inhabitants. It produces some considerable rich veins of copper and other minerals; and even gold has been discovered, but in too small quantities to be worth the expense of working.

POLITICAL CHARACTER.

The extensive estate of Earl Fitzwilliam in this county returns both members.

PATRON—Earl Fitzwilliam.

That the reader may be enabled at one glance to see the present state of the representative system of Ireland, Mr. Wakefield has reduced the preceding account to the tabular form, annexing the names of the patrons to such places as are known to be subject to decisive influence. He has even gone farther, and ventured, on what he considered as sufficient authority, to hint at the general bias of public feeling; shewing, however, not so much the opinions, as the prevailing desire of the country

respecting the unfortunate religious question, which forms so prominent a subject in every enquiry concerning Ireland. The inhabitants of those places, to which he has not annexed a mark, are too supine to interest themselves in such a manner as to enable him to form a conclusion on their political attachments. In some instances, the opinions of the patrons and of the electors are at variance. Those of the patrons, therefore, are not to be confounded with that of the people; which, if numbers be worthy of consideration, must be an argument in favour of extending relief to the Roman Catholics. To illustrate this by example. Mr. Wakefield has taken the county of Monaghan; in which, if the people were admitted to a general poll on the question, he was induced to believe, that in the proportion of five to one they would vote in favour of the catholic claims. But so great is the influence of their protestant landlords, that if summoned to a poll, none but gentlemen, the acknowledged friends of that interest would succeed, or even obtain more than a few votes. Such events will not shew the opinions of the people, but their slavery and degradation, and their total indifference to those rights which belong to them as men. Considerable respect, no doubt, is paid to the opinion of landlords, who form the wealthiest part of the community; and on that account he considered this table as highly interesting, as it will shew where the influence arising from riches is situated, and in what hands this formidable lever of political power is deposited.

	Member.	Religious bias of the Electors.		Religious bias of the Patrons.
Antrim county -	1		Lord Hertford - -	P
	1		Lord O'Neil - - -	P
Belfast Borough	1		M. Donegal - - -	P
Carrickfergus - -	1		Open.	
Lisburn - - -	1		M. Hertford - - -	P
County of Armagh	1	P	Mr. Brownlow - -	P
	1	P	Earl Gosford - - -	P
City of Armagh -	1		Primate - - - -	P
County of Carlow -	1	RC	Mr. Cavannah - - -	RC
	1	RC		
Borough of Carlow -	1		Earl Charleville - -	P
County of Cavan -	1	P	Earl Farnham - -	P
	1	P		
County of Clare -	1	RC	O'Brien family - -	RC
	1	RC	Earl Conyngham - -	RC
Borough of Ennis -	1		Sir Edward O'Brien } alternate.	RC
			James Fitzgerald }	
County of Cork -	1		Earl Shannon - - -	P
	1			
City of Cork - -	1	P	Earl Longueville - -	P
	1	RC	Earl Donoughmore -	RC
Borough of Youghal	1		Earl Shannon - - -	P
Bandon Bridge -	1		Earl Bandon - - -	P
Kinsale - - - -	1		Lord de Clifford - -	RC
Mallow - - -	1		Mr. Jephson - - -	P
County of Donegal	1	RC	M. Abercorn	
	1	RC	Earl Conyngham	
County of Down -	2	P	M. Downshire - -	RC
Borough of Newry	1		Open:	
Downpatrick	1		Lord de Clifford	RC
County of Louth -	1	RC	Earl Roden	P
	1	RC	Right Hon. John Foster	P
Borough of Drogheda	1	RC	Open.	
Dunkald - - -	1		Earl Roden	P

	Member.	Religious bias of the Electors.		Religious bias of the Patrons.
County of Dublin -	1	RC	Independent	
	1	P		
City of Dublin - -	1	RC	Independent	
	1	P		
University of Dublin	1			
County of Fermanagh	1	P	Lord Enniskillen	P
	1	P	Col. Archdall	P
Bor. of Enniskillen	1		Lord Enniskillen	P
County of Galway	2	RC	Independent	
Borough of ——	1	RC	The Mr. Dalys, alternate	RC
County of Kerry	2	RC	Lord Kenmare	RC
Borough of Tralee	1		Sir Edw. Deny, a minor	RC
County of Kildare	1	RC	Duke of Leinster	
	1	RC	Independent	
County of Kilkenny	1	RC	Earl Besborough	RC
	1	RC	Earl Ormonde	RC
City of Kilkenny	1		Earl Ormonde Earl Desart, alternate	
King's County	1	P	Earl Ross	P
	1	P	Earl Charleville	P
County of Leitrim	1		Clements	
	1		Latouche	
County of Limerick	1	RC	Earl of Clare	P
	1	RC	Independent	
City of Limerick	1		Mr. Smith	P
County of Londonderry	1		M. Waterford	
	1		E. Londonderry	
City of Londonderry	1	P	Independent	
Borough of Coleraine	1		M. Waterford	
County of Longford	1	P	Earl of Ross	P
	1	RC	Lord Granard	RC
Mayo	1	RC	M. Sligo	RC
	1	RC	Lord Viscount Dillon	
County of Meath	1	RC	M. Headfort and Earl Darnley	RC
	1	RC	Independent	

	Member.	Religious bias of the Electors.		Religious bias of the Patrons.
Monaghan	2	P		
Queen's County	1	RC	Lords de Vesci and Portarlington	RC
	1	RC	Independent	
Bor. of Portarlington	1		Lord Portarlington	RC
County of Roscommon	2	RC	Independent	
Sligo	1	P	Mr. Cowper	P
	1	P	Independent	
Borough of Sligo	1	P	Mr. Wynne	P
County of Tipperary	1	RC	Lord Llandaff	RC
	1	RC	Independent	
Borough of Clonmell	1		Mr. Bagwell	P
City of Cashell	1		Mr. Pennefather	P
County of Tyrone	1	RC	M. Abercorn	P
	1		Independent	
Bor. of Dungannon	1		Lord Northland	
County of Waterford	1	RC	M. Waterford	
	1	RC	Independent	
City of Waterford	1	RC	Independent	
Borough of Dungarvon	1	RC	Duke of Devonshire	RC
County of Westmeath	1	P	Lord Longford	P
	1	P	Mr. Rochfort	P
Borough of Athlone	1		Rt. Hon. W. Handcock	P
County of Wexford	2	RC	Independent	
Borough of New Ross	1		Mr. Tottenham and Mr. Lee, alternate	P
Wexford	1		Marquis Ely and Mr. Neville, alternate	P
County of Wicklow	2		Earl Fitzwilliam	RC

Of the hundred members, therefore, twenty-nine appear to be independent of any influence, but that of religious party; and in questions on this subject their votes may be supposed to stand as follow:

Neuter	Carrickfergus	1	4
	County of Cork	1	
	Borough of Newry	1	
	University	1	
Roman Catholic	- - - -		18
Protestant	- - - -		7
			29

County of Carlow	1	RC	Queen's County	1	RC
Borough of Drogheda	1	RC	Co. of Roscommon	2	RC
County of Dublin	1	RC	County of Tipperary	1	RC
City of Dublin	1	RC	County of Tyrone	1	RC
County of Galway	2	RC	County of Waterford	1	RC
County of Kildare	1	RC	City of Waterford	1	RC
County of Limerick	1	RC	County of Wexford	1	RC
County of Meath	1	RC	Total 18 members.*		

County of Cavan	1	P	City of Derry	1	P
County of Dublin	1	P	Co. of Monaghan	1	P
City of Dublin	1	P	County of Sligo	1	P

Total seven members.†

---

* Of these 18 members, in the present Parliament, the member for Drogheda votes against the consideration of the catholic petition, as does Mr. Pole, the member for the Queen's County, and Mr. Ram, the member for Wexford County.

† Of these seven members, in the present Parliament, Mr. Shaw, the member for Dublin city, and Mr. Hamilton, the member for Dublin county, have declared themselves friendly to the catholic claims.

In considering the real state of the representation of Ireland, we must deduct from the hundred members of the House of Commons those who have been returned by the influence of the patrons of boroughs, as follows:

Places.	Patrons.	Members.
Carlow	Lord Charville	Mr. Strahan, printer, in London
Bandon Bridge	Lord Bandon	Rt. Hon. George Tierney
Kinsale	Lord de Clifford	Mr. H. Martin, barrister, London
Dunkald	Lord Roden	Mr. Hughan, merchant, London
Enniskillen	Lord Enniskillen	Mr. Pochen, a Leicestershire gent.
Tralee	Sir Edw. Denny	Mr. Stephens, barrister, London
Kilkenny	Lord Desart	Mr. Williams, banker, London
Portarlington	Ld. Portarlington	Hon. Mr. Lambe, Hertfordshire
Cashel	Mr. Pennefather	Mr. Peel, under sec. state, Engl.
Dungannon	Lord Northland	Mr. Claude Scott, Dorset. gent.
Athlone	Rt. h. W. Handcock	Mr. Turner, of Leicestershire
New Ross	Mr. Tottenham	Mr. Wigram, merchant, London
Wexford	Mr. Neville	Captain Parker, R. N. London

These thirteen members, few of whom ever saw Ireland, certainly can have nothing to do legitimately with the representation of that country. Scotland has, he believes, always been represented by her own sons, men familiar with the customs, habits, and prejudices of the people; acquainted with the local circumstances, interests, and wants of that part of the kingdom, and, consequently, better able to defend its rights, and propose or support measures for its benefit and improvement. But Ireland has nominal members, who cannot be supposed to have a greater knowledge of its real situation than they have of Thibet or Abyssinia.

The following close boroughs are represented by gentlemen connected with Ireland.

Places,	Patrons.	Members.
Belfast	Marquis Donegal	Mr. May, his father-in-law
Lisburn	Marquis Hertford	Lord Yarmouth, his son
Armagh	The Primate	Dr. Duigenan, the judge of the ecclesiastical court
Ennis	Mr. Fitzgerald	Mr. Fitzgerald, his son, a lord of the Irish treasury
Youghall	Lord Shannon	Sir John Keane, bart., a county of Cork gentleman.
Mallow	Mr. Jephson	There is a Mr. Jephson, a pensioner on the Irish establishment of 600*l. per ann.*; Mr. Wakefield did not know that he was the member.
Downpatrick	Lord de Clifford	Mr. Croker, a barrister of Ireland
Galway	James Daly, esq.	Himself
Limerick	Mr. Penderg. Smith	Col. Vereker, his nephew, constable of Limerick, and a lord of the treasury
Coleraine	Marquis Waterford	Marshal Beresford.
Sligo	Mr. Wynne	Mr. Canning, a county of Derry gentleman
Clonmel	Rt Hon. W. Bagwell	Col. Bagwell, his son, muster master general
Dungannon	Duke of Devonshire	General Walpole, his cousin.

These thirteen boroughs are not in the same situation as those given in the former list. The connexion, however, between the members and the places they represent, may be easily traced to its source; and Mr. Wakefield is not much inclined to censure the partiality to relations or friends, while the interests of the country do not suffer. Patronage, thus exercised, is less baneful than that which is converted into a source of cor-

ruption, or into the means of acquiring personal emolument by a sacrifice of the public: to the latter the people of Ireland are reconciled by habit; but these examples of the wealthy and the great, whom we ought to look to as models of honour and virtue, have a most pernicious influence on the people, tending to debase their minds and familiarize them to selfish and dishonest conduct. In this respect there is a considerable difference between England and Ireland. It cannot be overlooked that there are many borough proprietors in England and Ireland, ready to traffic for the representation as any other property; but how are these borough-mongers esteemed, or how do they rank in society? England has patrons who entertain very different ideas of this traffic, and who have never, by any such mercantile transactions endeavoured to corrupt the representatives of the people. We have a Fitzwilliam, a Bedford, and many others, who are noble exceptions to this too general practice.*

---

* The opinion of the present speaker, the Rt. Hon. Charles Abbot, on this subject, should be fastened to the entail of every great man's title to his estate. Considering it in this important light, we shall take the present opportunity of giving an extract from it.

"That the influence of property in maintaining civil order is of the highest importance, no man living can doubt; it is the firmest cement to all the relations of social life; it gives stability to the state, and prosperity to the empire. That the possession of property may, and must, and ought to have a predominant influence in the election of members to serve in this House, I think is equally clear; but that abandoning all their legitimate rights of influence, and laying aside all the virtuous and gene-

If the Irish patrons permit a traffic in this way, it is a circumstance to be regretted; and shews how easily men by habit and example are reconciled to practices, which, if uninfluenced by the countenance of society, they would never have endured. Mr. Wakefield, therefore, is less disposed to blame the patrons of Irish boroughs for pursuing this system, although it is necessary to exhibit it in all its deformity to public reprobation; to the men he entertains no hostility, it is the practice he reprobates.

With many of them he is personally acquainted, and he knows that in other respects they possess minds highly honourable; if they err, therefore, it is from mistaken notions of duty imbibed from intercourse with the world, and confirmed by the conduct of others.

But in some cases, these patrons expose themselves in a peculiar manner to reprehension. After receiving the most distinguishing marks of national favour; having brothers, sons, or near re-

---

rous motives of friendship, affection, and the fair preference of talents and integrity, to fill places of such high public trust; that they should go to a shameless and open market; that they should sell the attachments of their friends, neighbours, and dependents, for dirty and sordid gain, and sell it to utter strangers, of whose qualities they can have no other estimate than the weight of their purse; this does, indeed, appear to me to be a great political evil and a great public grievance. It degrades and debases the habits of the higher ranks of life, who confess their own sense of the nature of these transactions by the concealment with which they seek to cover them. It taints also, and contaminates the general character of parliament." *Abbott's speech*, June 1, 1809.

lations representatives of counties enjoying rich bishopricks, or holding lucrative sinecure places, it might be expected, if they even should forget how much they have at stake, that they would embrace some opportunities of making the best return in their power to their country, by sending to the House of Commons men of tried talents and approved integrity. But this is not the case. Instead of characters such as Mr. Wakefield has described, the objects of their choice are either young men unacquainted with the great duties they have to perform, or individuals alike strangers to themselves and to Ireland: and the reason of all this is, because they have been recommended and supported by an influence which their independence was not able to resist.

If the representation of Ireland be regulated as it ought, by the choice of the people the thirteen members last mentioned must be deducted; and as the second list comprehends thirteen also, if to these the twenty-nine independent members be added we shall still have forty-five to be disposed of.

Places.	Patrons.	Parties.	
Antrim	Marquis Hertford	Patron and Electors	P
	E. O'Neil		P
Armagh	Mr. Brownlow		P
	Earl of Gosford		P
Carlow	Mr. Cavanmah		RC
Cavan	Lord Farnham		P
Clare	Lord Conyngham		RC
	O'Brien Family		RC
Cork	Lord Shannon	Patron	P
City of Cork	Lord Longueville	Patron and Electors	P
	Lord Donoughmore		RC

Places.	Patrons.	Parties.	
Donegal	Marquis Abercorn		RC
	Lord Conyngham		RC
Down	Marquis Downshire	Patron RC. Electors P The members vote with their Patron.	
Fermanagh	Lord Enniskillen	Patron and Electors	P
	Col. Archdall		P
Kerry	Lord Kenmare		RC
Kildare	Duke of Leinster		RC
Kilkenny	Earl of Besborough		RC
	Earl of Ormonde		RC
King's County	Earl of Ross		P
	Earl of Charleville		P
Leitrim	Clements, Latouche	Undetermined	
Limerick	Earl of Clare	Patron P. Electors RC Members vote for the Electors.	
Londonderry	M. Waterford	Undetermined.	
	Earl of Londonderry	P	P
	Earl of Granard	Patron and Electors	RC
Longford	Earl of Ross		P
Louth	E. Roden		P
	Rt. Hon. J. Foster		P
Mayo	Marquis of Sligo, & Lord Dillon	Electors, &c.	RC
Meath	Lord Darnley	Patron and Electors	RC
Queen's County	Lord De Vesci		RC
Sligo	Mr. Cowper		P
Tipperary	Lord Landaff		RC
Tyrone	Marquis Abercorn		RC
Waterford	Marquis Waterford	Patron undetermined. Electors	RC
Westmeath	Lord Longford	Patron and Electors	P
	Mr. Rochfort		P
Wicklow	Earl Fitzwilliam	Patron RC. Electors	P

Although Mr. Wakefield has pointed out the electors of some counties, towns, and boroughs, as hostile to the catholic question, he does not mean to insinuate that this is the case with the electors, but with the landlords under whose control they are. There are two counties he particularly notices. The first is Down, the hot-bed of Orangemen and bigoted protestantism, which returns two members, who vote contrary to the opinion of of the county. It cannot be presumed but that those gentlemen act agreeably to the dictates of their conscience; but it is a singular coincidence, that their sentiments always coincide with those of the Marchioness of Downshire.

The other county to which he alludes is Wicklow, in which Earl Fitzwilliam is proprietor of 50,000 acres. Before the existence of the act which extended the right of voting to Roman Catholics, the agents on this estate accepted none as tenants but protestants, that they might create such an influence as would carry the county. At a recent election Lord Fitzwilliam's protestant tenantry voted for the Rt. Hon. George Ponsonby, an avowed supporter of the catholic question, while the Roman Catholics under protestant landholders gave their suffrages for his opponent Lord Proby.

The members under the influence of the Marquis of Waterford, withdrew until the last session 1811, before a division; so that adding these forty-five members to the twenty-nine independent ones, they will stand in the following manner upon this grand question.

First deduct those who were not elected by their constituents, under an expectation of their taking a decided part either way:

Carrickfergus	1
County of Cork	1
Newry	1
Dublin University	1
Leitrim	2
Londonderry	2
Longford	1
Waterford	1
	10

Leaving 64.

Of the independent votes there are 18

	R.C.	P.
Antrim		7
Armagh		2
Cavan		2
Carlow	1	
Clare	2	
Cork	1	
City of Cork	1	1
Donegal	2	
Down	2	
Louth		2
Fermanagh		2
Kerry	2	
Kildare	1	
Kilkenny	2	
King's County	2	
Carry forward	34	16

	R.C.	P.
Brought forward	34	16
Limerick	1	
Longford	1	
Mayo.....	2	
Meath	1	
Queen's County	1	
Sligo		1
Tipperary	1	
Tyrone	1	
Westmeath		2
Wicklow	2	
	41	23
	23	
	64	
Undetermined.....	10	
Members of close boroughs.	26	
Make the.....	100	

No great political parties, such as the whigs and tories of England, and which have existed so long, and made so great a figure in history, are to be heard of in Ireland. Whigism is a subject never agitated in the course of a canvas; it expired with the late Lord Charlemont. Respecting the catholic question, the case however is different; it is always a prominent feature in every political discussion, and a kind of test by which persons of adverse opinions are guided in their choice of representatives. But although there are no great and powerful political parties, for those formed by the catholic question ought rather to

be denominated religious, there are many things connected with the representation of the country, which, were this a professed treatise on the subject, would deserve to be taken into consideration. A county member, if he support the minister, or if he be in opposition to his rival,* has, what is called, "the patronage of the county;" that is he appoints excise and custom house officers, officers of militia, &c. Possessed of this influence, the claims upon his friendship are numerous; and as long as any thing remains to be given away, he deals out his favours to the gentlemen who brought their voters to support him on the day of trial: these latter men forming another link in the political chain, a chain which binds as fast as any ever riveted on mankind, distribute their favours to their tenants, who have made the greatest number of freeholders on their estates. Thus the fertile spring of corruption flows in a strong current, hurrying forward persons of various ranks and conditions, who, buoyed up with the delusive hope of acquiring consequence through the interest of some powerful man, abandon honest industry, to become the agents of intrigue, neglecting pursuits which with care and industry would place them in a state of comparative independence.

It is the opinion of a most respectable judge, that Ireland loses more by the absence of her 132

* Dr. Duigenan stated in the House of Commons, that he had known county members buy off their opponents. Cobbett's Parliamentary Register, vol. 4. p. 895, a fact of which we have also heard, but we prefer giving Irish authority for so disgraceful a circumstance to both buyer and seller.

representatives, than she gains by any service they can render to her during the session of Parliament; for he asks, How could England spare 132 of the first of her inhabitants? There is some truth in this observation; but I do not attach so much importance to it, as to believe that it can produce any serious effect; absentees, in my estimation, are not so detrimental to the country as is generally supposed.

There are various acts which require persons to register their freeholds before they can be allowed to vote at an election. Hence perjury is often committed; and it is perhaps, on this account, that although votes are so valuable and so much in request, instances of neglect of registry so frequently occur. Mr. Wakefield observed this among persons whose principal object in life was to divide their estates into the greatest number of freeholds.

And he could give (he says) a list of persons returned to serve in Parliament by English patrons, whose talents have done credit to their choice; but, among the hundred Irish members, there is no instance where the possession of abilities has had any weight whatever in the consideration of those by whom they were sent to the Imperial Parliament. This cannot arise from a lack of men of talents, while Mr. Bolton of Waterford, Colonel Stepney of the King's County, Admiral Pakenham, Mr. Carew of Castleboro, Mr. Herbert of Carneine, and many others remain in private in Ireland: the people of England have scarcely been allowed an opportunity of estimating the rate of Irish talent in her public men. Several natives of Ireland

have distinguished themselves in the British senate by their eloquence and talents; and, no doubt, there are many of her sons now in obscurity and retirement, who, if called to public exertion, would do equal credit to their country. Men of high merit are, however, inspired with sentiments of independence ill suited to the present system of Parliamentary influence * in Ireland; while the pliant dependent, in whom self-will is extinct, and whose accommodating sentiments can be moulded into any form, according to the inclination of his patron, is certain of success. Let me, says Mr. Wakefield, as a pattern to such patrons, earnestly recommend the conduct of the late Lord Charlemont, as related by Mr. Hardy, in his life of that nobleman, recently published.† His lord-

* In England, the admirers of virtue must never forget that it was under the present system of representation that the University of Oxford refused to elect Sir William Jones; the town of Bedford, the immortal Howard; and that the bigotry of Liverpool attacked and refused Mr. Roscoe. After these instances, it excites no surprise that Jeremy Bentham, Arthur Young, &c. have never found their way to the House of Commons. Whatever others may be disposed to assert, Mr. Wakefield maintains, that these instances, out of many, are sufficient to prove, that, under the present system, some of the very best and most enlightened of our countrymen are omitted in the list of British legislators.

† Mr. Wakefield here alludes to his lordship's conduct respecting the borough of Charlemont, which, through his influence, returned as one of its members Mr. Richard Sheridan, a cousin-german of Brinsley Sheridan, who has distinguished himself so much by the power of his genius and his talents as a public speaker. The former was bred to the bar, though without a regular education, and possessed, in no slight degree, the

ship, whose name will be long remembered and revered, considered his borough interest as a sa-

---

talents of his family. He died a few years after his election, leaving behind him an excellent character, and regretted by all those who had the pleasure of his acquaintance, but by none more sincerely than his noble friend and patron, Lord Charlemont. The following extract from his lordship's letter to him, dated April 10, 1790, deserves to be recorded:—"Some characters, as well as some countenances, possess the peculiar privilege of making an immediate and favourable impression. My acquaintance with you has been of short duration; and yet that short acquaintance has been effectual to point you out as the fittest person to execute a trust, which is, in my opinion, the most important that one man can receive from another. Whenever it may be possible that the representation of this kingdom shall be purified, and advantageously altered from its present absurd and unconstitutional course, I shall, with exultation, resign that which some men esteem their property, but will, in the meanwhile, endeavour to manage that trust which I hold for my country, as far as I am able, to her advantage; neither do I think that I can better perform this, according to my ideas, indispensable duty, than by offering you a seat for the borough of Charlemont, your acceptance of which will be an obligation to me." *Hardy's Life of Lord Charlemont*, p. 862.

When Mr. Sheridan died, a Mr. Jephson was chosen to succeed him; and on this occasion Lord Charlemont, in a letter dated January 23, 1794, says: "The borough of Charlemont elects Richard Jephson, a young man of excellent talents, and, as far as my strictest investigation can fathom, of sound principles. How far an untried man may succeed is a matter of mere hazard; but the peculiar cast of his abilities, joined to much diligence and great ardour, gives him, I think, an excellent chance. It is, besides, my opinion, that almost the only good effect which can be derived from the present absurd system of borough representation is, the possibility of bringing forward young men, who may become useful to their country; but who, without this resource, would probably be condemned to "waste their sweetness in the desert air." *Ibid.* p. 363.

cred trust held for the benefit of his country; and instead of bartering away that trust, his choice fell upon the most upright and able persons; and, in some cases, upon gentlemen with whom he appears to have hardly had a personal acquaintance.* Such instances, however, are rare in Ireland: the flame of patriotism burns there with a feeble light; and the spirit of interest prevails so much, and so deadens every generous feeling, that the eloquence of the most captivating popular speaker, were it exerted among Irish freeholders, would be heard without emotion, and without being able to procure a single vote. Were education as well as property made a test of qualification, would it not be an improvement of the system? The same regulation might be extended to the candidate with the happiest effects.

---

* The family of Charlemont must ever feel indebted to Mr. Hardy for the manner in which he has laid before the public the many excellent traits in the character of the late earl.

APPENDIX;

CONTAINING

Correct Tables

OF

PARLIAMENTARY PATRONAGE, &c.

IN

ENGLAND, WALES, SCOTLAND,

AND

IRELAND.

CONTENTS.

	No.
Correct Table of Parliamentary Patronage in England and Wales	I.
Correct Table, &c. in Scotland	II.
Correct Table, &c. in Ireland	III.
Correct Table of the Counties, Cities, and Boroughs, of Great Britain; shewing the period at which each was first summoned, when discontinued, and when restored	IV.
Equal Representation of the People in the time of the Commonwealth	V.
Table of the duration of the several Parliaments from the beginning of the reign of Henry VIII. to the present time . .	VI.
List of the Speakers of the House of Commons from the earliest period to the present time	VII.
Abstract of the Laws relating to the Election of Members of Parliament	VIII.

No. I.

CORRECT TABLE

OF

PARLIAMENTARY PATRONAGE

IN

ENGLAND AND WALES.

1. *PATRONAGE OF PEERS.*

Names of Patrons.	Nominate Members.	Influence the return of Members.	Total.
PRINCE OF WALES		2 Plymouth	2
Duke of Norfolk	2 Steyning	2 Hereford	11
	2 Arundel	1 Gloster	
	2 Horsham	1 Carlisle	
		1 Shoreham	
—— Richmond		1 Sussex	2
		1 Chichester	
—— Grafton	1 Thetford		2
	1 St. Edmunds Bury		
—— Beaufort		1 Gloucestersh.	3
		1 Monmouthsh.	
		1 Momouth	
—— Leeds	2 Helstone		2
—— Bedford	2 Tavistock	1 Bedfordshire	4
		1 Bedford	
—— Devonshire	2 Knaresborough	1 Derbyshire	4
		1 Derby	
—— Marlborough	2 Woodstock	1 Oxfordshire	4
		1 Oxford	
—— Rutland	1 Bramber	1 Leicestershire	6
	1 Scarborough	1 Cambridgesh.	
		2 Cambridge	

Names of Patrons.	Nominate Members.	Influence the return of Members.	Total.
Duke of Portland		1 Nottinghamhs.	1
—— Manchester		1 Huntingdonsh.	1
Duchess of Dorset	2 East Grinsted		2
Duke of Newcastle	2 Aldborough (York)	2 East Retford	7
	2 Boroughbridge	1 Newark	
——Northumberland	2 Launceston		5
	2 Newport (Cornw.)	1 Northum. Co.	
Mar. of Buckingham	2 Buckingham	1 Buckinghams.	6
	2 St. Mawes	1 Aylesbury	
—— of Lansdown	2 Calne		2
—— of Stafford		1 Staffordshire	5
		1 Litchfield	
		2 Newcastle (Stafford)	
		1 Brackley	
—— Townshend	1 Tamworth	1 Yarmouth (Norfolk)	2
—— of Bath	2 Weobly	1 Bath	3
—— Cornwallis	2 Eye		2
—— of Hertford	2 Orford	1 Totness	3
—— of Bute		1 Cardiff	1
—— of Exeter		2 Stamford	2
—— of Northampton		1 Northampton	1
—— Camden		1 Brecknecksh.	1
—— of Anglesea	2 Milborne Port	1 Anglesea	4
		1 Carnarvon	
—— Cholmondely	1 Castle Rising		1
Earl of Derby		1 Lancashire	2
		1 Preston	
—— of Pembroke	2 Wilton		2
—— of Bridgewater		1 Brackley	1
—— of Westmoreland	2 Lime Regis		2
—— of Thanet	1 Appleby		1
—— of Sandwich		1 Huntingdonsh.	3
		2 Huntingdon	
—— of Carlisle		1 Morpeth	1

Names of Patrons.	Nominate Members.	Influence the return of Members.	Total.
Earl of Shaftesbury		1 Dorchester	1
— Paulet		2 Bridgewater	2
— of Bristol	1 St.Edmunds Bury		1
— of Portsmouth		1 Andover	1
— of Warwick		1 Warwick	1
— of Buckinghams.		1 Lincoln	1
— Fitzwilliam	1 Higham Ferrers 2 Malton	1 Yorkshire 2 Peterborough	6
— of Egremont		1 Sussex 1 Chichester	2
— of Guildford		1 Banbury	1
— of Hardwick	1 Ryegate	1 Cambridgeshire	2
— of Darlington	2 Winchelsea 2 Tregony 2 Camelford	1 Durham (Co.)	7
— of Radnor	2 Downton	1 Salisbury	3
— Bathurst	2 Cirencester		2
— of Aylesbury	2 Marlborough 2 Great Bedwin		4
— of Clarendon		1 Wotton Basset	1
— Grosvenor		1 Chester	1
— of Mountedgcombe	1 Bossiny 1 Fowey 1 Plimpton 2 Lestwithiel		5
— of Beverley	2 Beeralston		2
— of Onslow		2 Guildford	2
— of Powis	1 Montgomery 2 Bishops' Castle	2 Ludlow	5
— Manvers		1 Nottinghamshire	1
— of Orford		1 Lynn	1
— of Lonsdale	2 Cockermouth 2 Haselmere 1 Appleby	1 Cumberland 1 Carlisle 2 Westmoreland	9
— of Harrowby		2 Tiverton	2
— of Caledon	2 Old Sarum		2

Names of Patrons.	Nominate Members.	Influence the return of Members.	Total.
Earl Brownlow	1 Clitheroe		1
—— of St. Germans	2 Liskeard 2 St. Germans		4
—— of Mulgrave	1 Scarborough		1
—— of Bradford	1 Wenlock		1
—— of Harewood	1 Northallerton	1 Yorkshire 1 Pomfret	3
—— of Beauchamp		1 Worcestershire	1
Viscount Bolingbroke		1 Wotton Basset	1
—— Falmouth	1 St. Michael	2 Truro	3
—— Sydney	1 Whitchurch		1
—— Middleton	1 Whitchurch		1
—— Bulkeley	1 Beaumaris	1 Carnarvonshire	2
—— Curzon	1 Clitheroe		1
—— Anson		1 Litchfield	1
Lord Clinton	1 Ashburton 2 Callington		3
—— Petre		1 Thetford	1
—— Middleton		1 Newark	1
—— Monson		1 Lincoln	1
—— Foley	2 Droitwich	1 Worcestershire 1 Herefordshire	4
—— Dynevor		1 Carmarthenshire	1
—— Somers	1 Ryegate		1
—— Dundas	2 Richmond		2
—— Yarborough	1 Newton (Hants)	1 Lincolnshire 2 Grimsby	4
—— Calthorpe	1 Hindon 1 Bramber		2
—— De Dunstanville	2 Bodmin	1 Penryn	3
—— Cawdor		1 Carmarthen	1
—— Carrington	2 Midhurst 2 Wendover	1 Nottingham 1 Leicester	6
—— Northwick		1 Evesham	1
Total number of Members returned by eighty-seven Peers, in England and Wales only,			218

2. *PATRONAGE OF COMMONERS.*

Names of Patrons.	Nominate Members.	Influence the return of Members.	Total.
T. T. Drake, esq.	2 Agmondesham		2
Sir C.C.De Crespigny	2 Aldborough (Suff.)		2
Mr. Ralph Etwall		1 Andover	1
Sir Lawrence Palke	1 Ashburton		1
Lord GeorgeCavendish		1 Aylesbury	1
Matthew Russell,esq.	2 Bletchingley		2
Charles Palmer, esq.		1 Bath	1
Mr. Roberts		1 Bewdley	1
J. A. Stuart Wortley, esq.	1 Bossiny		1
Sir Charles Morgan		1 Monmouthsh. 1 Brecknock	2
Thos. Whitmore, esq.		2 Bridgenorth	2
—— Sturt, esq.		1 Bridport	1
Lord Lisburne		1 Cardigan	1
Rich. Howard, esq.	1 Castle Rising		1
John Maitland, esq.	1 Chippenham		1
Charles Brooke, esq.	1 Chippenham		1
The Rt. Hon. George Rose	2 Christchurch	1 Southampton	3
Henry Banks, esq.	1 Corfe Castle		1
Rt. Hon. N. Bond	I Corfe Castle		1
Hon. F. West		1 Denbigh	1
Edward Coke, esq.		1 Derby	1
Joshua Smith, esq.		1 Devizes	1
T. G. Estcourt, esq.		1 Devizes	1

Names of Patrons.	Nominate Members.	Influence the return of Members.	Total.
Rob. Williams, esq.		1 Dorchester	1
Snowdon Barne, esq.	1 Dunwich		1
Lord Huntingfield	1 Dunwich		1
Sir Edward Buller	2 East Looe		2
Sir Thomas Mostyn		1 Flintshire	1
Sir W. W. Wynne		1 Montgomerysh. 1 Denbighshire 1 Flint	3
William Rashleigh	1 Fowey		1
Sir Mark Wood	2 Gatton		2
Sir William Manners	2 Ilchester	1 Grantham	3
Edward Milward	2 Hastings		2
Lord Kensington		1 Haverfordwest	1
Mr. L. Iveson		2 Heydon	2
Sir W. P. A'Court	2 Heytesbury		2
Wm Beckford, esq.	1 Hindon		1
Mr. Flood		1 Honiton	1
Mr. Townsend		1 Honiton	1
R. A. Crickitt, esq.		1 Ipswich	1
Sir Christo. Hawkins	1 St. Michael 1 St. Ives	2 Grampound	4
Sam. Stephens, esq.	1 St. Ives		1
Sir M. B. Folkes		1 Lynn	1
Mr. Coleman		2 Leominster	2
Sir James Graham	1 Ludgershall		1
J. H. Everett, esq.	1 Ludgershall		1
Sir H. B. Neale	2 Lymington		
J. H. Strutt, esq.		1 Malden	1
Joseph Pitt, esq.	2 Malmsbury	1 Cricklade	3
Owen Williams, esq.	2 Marlow		
J. F. Luttrell, esq.	2 Minehead		2
W. Ord, esq.	1 Morpeth		1
Sir L. T. W. Holmes	2 Yarmouth (Hants) 2 Newport (Hants)		4
Thomas Leigh, esq.	2 Newtown (Lancas.)		2

Names of Patrons.	Nominate Members.	Influence the return of Members.	Total.
Sir John Barington	1 Newtown (Hants)		1
Henry Peirse, esq.	1 Northalerton		1
Albany Savile, esq.	2 Oakhampton		2
Sir John Owen		1 Pembrokeshire 1 Pembroke	2
Hylton Jolliffe, esq.	2 Petersfield		2
P. T. Treby, esq.	1 Plympton		1
B. Lester, esq.		1 Poole	1
John Jeffrey, esq.		1 Poole	1
S. Horrocks, esq.		1 Preston	1
Mr. Alderman Carter		2 Portsmouth	2
Miss Lawrence	2 Ripon		2
Sir Cholmondeley Deering	2 Romney		2
Sir G. N. Noel		1 Rutlandshire	1
T. P. Lambe, esq.	2 Rye		2
John Buller, esq.	2 Saltash 2 West Looe		4
G. P. Jervoise, esq.		1 Salisbury	1
John Leach, esq.	1 Seaford		1
C. R. Ellis, esq.	1 Seaford		1
John Dyneley, esq.	2 Shaftsbury		2
J. F. Barham, esq.	1 Stockbridge		1
George Porter, esq.	1 Stockbridge		1
Sir J. Cox Hippisley		1 Sudbury	1
Sir Robert Peel	1 Tamworth		1
Sir T. B. Lethbridge		1 Taunton	1
Sir Thos. Frankland	2 Thirsk		2
Hon. W. J. V. Pawlett		1 Totness	1
John Calcraft, esq.	2 Wareham		2
J. P. Tudway, esq.		1 Wells	1
C. W. Forester, esq.	1 Wenlock		1
Sir M. M. Lopez	2 Westbury		2
Sir G. F. Johnstone	4 Weymouth and Melcombe Regis		4

Names of Patrons.	Nominate Members.	Influence the return of Members.	Total.
Sir R. H. Leigh		1 Wigan	1
John Hodson, esq.		1 Wigan	1
Sir H. C. S. Mildmay		2 Winchester	2
Sir Thomas Baring		1 High Wycombe	1
Sir J. D. King		1 High Wycombe	1
Total number of Members returned by ninety Commoners, in England and Wales only,			137

3. *PATRONAGE OF GOVERNMENT.*

Treasury	2 Dartmouth	11
	1 Dover	
	2 Harwich	
	2 Hythe	
	1 Windsor	
	2 Hampshire	
	1 Yarmouth (Norfolk)	
Admiralty	1 Queenborough	4
	1 Rochester	
	2 Sandwich	
Ordnance	1 Queenborough	1
Total number of Members returned by Government in England and Wales only,		16

Total number of Members returned by eighty-seven Peers, in England and Wales only,	218
Total number of Members returned by ninety Commoners, in England and Wales only,	137
Total number of Members returned by Government, in England and Wales only,	16
Total number of Members returned by eighty-seven Peers, ninety Commoners, and Government, in England and Wales only,	371

Oxford, Retford, Newcastle-under-Line, Totness, Tregony, Wotton Basset, and one member for St. Ives, were carried against the influence of the Patrons at the last general election; but with the exception of Oxford and Newcastle, we are sorry to add, it was not the *Amor Patriæ*, nor the zeal of honest independence, that prevailed upon this occasion.

Oxfordshire has, since the last general election, returned an independent member, after submitting to the nomination of the Duke of Marlborough for sixty-two years.

No. II.

CORRECT TABLE

OF

PARLIAMENTARY PATRONAGE

IN

SCOTLAND.

1. *PATRONAGE OF PEERS.*

Names of Patrons.	Influence.	Total.
Duke of Hamilton	1. Lanark County	1
Duke of Buccleugh Marquis of Queensberry and Earl of Hopetoun	1. Dumfries County	1
Duke of Buccleugh and Mr. Dundas of Arniston	1. Edinburgh County 1. Edinburgh City	2
Duke of Buccleugh	1. Selkirk County 1 Selkirk District	2
—— Gordon	1 Aberdeen County	1
—— Argyll	1 Argyll County 1 Ayr District	2
—— Athol	1 Perth County	1
—— Montrose	1 Dumbarton County 1 Sterling County	2
Marquis of Queensberry	1 Dumfries District	1
Marchioness of Stafford	1 Sutherland County 1 Tain District	2
Marquis of Bute	1 Bute County	1
Earl of Eglintoun	1 Ayr County	1
—— of Home and Mr. Home, of Widderburne	1 Berwick County	1
Earl of Galloway	1 Kirkcudbright County 1 Wigtown County 1 Stranraer District	3

Names of Patrons.	Influence.	Total.
Earl of Lauderdale	1 Hadington District	1
— of Kintore and — of Fife	1 Banff District	1
— of Seafield	1 Elgin County	1
— of Hopetoun	1 Hadington County 1 Linlithgow County 1 Stirling District	3
— of Minto	1 Roxburgh County	1
Lord Dundas and Sir William Honyman	1 Orkney County	1
Baroness Abercromby	1 Clackmannan County	1
Lord Cawdor	1 Nairn County	1
Total returned by twenty-one Peers and Peeresses		31

2. *PATRONAGE OF COMMONERS.*

Sir George Abercromby	1 Banff County	1
General Wemyss	1 Fife County	1
Hon. William Maule	1 Forfar County	1
Charles Grant, esq.	1 Inverness County 1 Inverness District	2
Mr. Barclay, of Urie	1 Kincardine County	1
Sir James Montgomery	1 Peebles County	1
Sir Michael Shaw Stewart	1 Renfrew County	1
Late Lord Seaforth's Heir	1 Ross County	1
James Farquhar, esq.	1 Aberdeen District	1
Sir John Anstruther	1 Anstruther District	1
Sir John Maxwell and Archibald Campbell, esq.	1 Glasgow District	1
General Ferguson	1 Kinghorn District	1
Sir David Wedderburne	1 Perth District	1
Total returned by fourteen Commoners		14
By twenty-one Peers and Peeresses		31
		45

When the county of Caithness returns a member, he is nominated by Sir John Sinclair. The county of Cromarty is under the influence of Henry Davidson, esq.; and the county of Kinross, of Thomas Graham, esq.

The Treasury have a controling influence nearly over the whole of the Scotch representation. The late Lord Melville always boasted, that he could return thirty-nine out of forty-five who represented the whole kingdom of Scotland! The Duke of Montrose is now considered as the patron-general, for the Treasury of all Scotland.

No. III.

CORRECT TABLE

OF

PARLIAMENTARY PATRONAGE

IN

IRELAND.

1. *PATRONAGE OF PEERS.*

Names of Patrons.	Nominate Members.	Influence the return of Members.	Total.
Archbish. of Armagh	1 Armagh City		1
Duke of Leinster		1 Kildare	1
—— of Devonshire		1 Dungarvon	1
Marquis of Waterford	1 Colerain	1 Londonderry (Co.) 1 Waterford (Co.)	3
—— of Downshire		2 Down (County)	2
—— of Donegal	1 Belfast		1
—— of Headfort		1 Meath (County)	1
—— of Sligo		1 Mayo (County)	1
—— of Ely	1 Wexford (Boro.)		1
—— of Abercorn		1 Donegal (Co.) 1 Tyrone (Co.)	2
—— of Hertford	1 Lisburne	1 Antrim (County)	2
Earl of Ormonde		1 Kilkenny (Co.) 1 Kilkenny (City)	2
—— of Granard		1 Longford (County)	1
—— Fitzwilliam		2 Wicklow (County)	2
—— of Bessborough		1 Kilkenny (County)	1

Names of Patrons.	Nominees Members.	Influence the return of Members.	Total.
Earl of Shannon	1 Youghal	1 Cork (County)	2
— of Roden	1 Dunkald	1 Louth (County)	2
— of Longford		1 Westmeath	1
— of Portarlington	1 Portarlington		1
— of Farnham		1 Cavan	1
— of Enniskillen	1 Enniskillen	1 Fermanagh	2
— of Clare		1 Limerick (County)	1
— of Londonderry		1 Londonderry (Co.)	1
— of Conyngham		1 Clare (Co.) 1 Donegal (Co.)	2
— of Landaff		1 Tipperary (County)	1
— O'Neil		1 Antrim (County)	1
— of Bandon	1 Bandon Bridge		1
— of Donoughmore		1 Cork (City)	1
— of Rosse		1 King's County 1 Longford (Co.)	2
— of Charleville	1 Carlow Borough	1 King's County	2
— of Gosford		1 Armagh (County)	1
Viscount Dillon		1 Mayo (County)	1
— D'Vesci		1 Queen's County	1
— Northland	1 Dungannon		1
Lord De Clifford	1 Kinsale 1 Downpatrick		2
— Kenmare		2 Kerry (County)	2
Total number of members returned by thirty-six Peers in Ireland only			51

2. *PATRONAGE OF COMMONERS.*

Wm. Brownlow, esq.			1
Mr. Cavanagh		(County)	
Sir Edward O'Brien	1		

Names of Patrons.	Nominate Members.	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rt. Hon. John Foster		1 Louth	
Mervyn Archdall, esq.		1 Fermanagh	
Rt. Hon. D. B. Daly	1 Galway Borough		
Sir Edward Denny	1 Tralee		
H. J. Clements, esq.		1 Leitrim	
John Latouche, esq.		1 Leitrim	
Mr. Smith		1 Limerick	
Mr. Cowper		1 Sligo	
Owen Wynne, esq.	1 Sligo Borough		
Rt. Hon. Wm. Bagwell	1 Clonmel		
Mr. Pennefather	1 Mountrasbee		
Mr. Rochfort		1 Westmeath	
Rt. Hon. Wm. Handcock	1 Athlone		
Mr. Tottenham	1 New Ross		
Mountiford Longfield, esq.		1 Cork City	
Mr. Jephson	1 Mallow		

Total number of members returned by nineteen Commoners in Ireland only,

---

Total number of members returned by thirty-six Peers in Ireland only,

Total number of members returned by nineteen Commoners in Ireland only,

Total number of members returned by thirty-six Peers and nineteen Commoners in Ireland only,

RECAPITULATION.

Members returned by 87 Peers in England and Wales	218	
By 21 Peers in Scotland	31	
By 36 Peers in Ireland	51	
Total returned by Peers		300
Members returned by 90 Commoners in England and Wales	137	
By 14 Commoners in Scotland	14	
By 19 Commoners in Ireland	20	
Nominated by Government	16	
Total returned by Commoners and Government		187
Total returned by nomination		487
Independent of nomination		171
Total of the House of Commons		658

No. IV.

CORRECT TABLE

OF THE

COUNTIES, CITIES, AND BOROUGHS

OF

GREAT BRITAIN;

Shewing the period at which each City and Borough first sent Members to Parliament; the time that each of the existing Boroughs have been deprived of their exclusive rights; and the different reigns in which they have been restored.

Counties, Cities, and Boroughs.	When first summoned.	When discontinued.	When restored.
Bedfordshire	ab origine		
Bedford	23 Edward 1		
Berkshire	ab origine		
Windsor	30 Edward 1	14 Edward 3	25 Henry 6
Reading	23 Edward 1		
Wallingford	23 Edward 1		
Abingdon	11 Edward 3	12 Edward 3	4 & 5 P. & M
Buckinghamshire	ab origine		
Buckingham	11 Edward 3	12 Edward 3	36 Henry 8
Wycomb	28 Edward 1		
Aylesbury	1 Mary		
Agmondesham	28 Edward 1	2 Edward 2	21 James 1
Wendover	28 Edward 1	2 Edward 2	21 James 1
Marlow	28 Edward 1	2 Edward 2	21 James 1
Cambridgeshire	ab origine		

Counties, Cities, and Boroughs.	When first summoned.	When discontinued.	When restored.
Cambridge University	1 James 1		
Cambridge Town	23 Edward 1		
Cheshire	34 Henry 8		
Chester	34 Henry 8		
Cornwall	ab origine		
Launceston	23 Edward 1		
Leskeard	23 Edward 1		
Lestwithiel	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1	4 Edward 2
Truro	23 Edward 1		
Bodmin	23 Edward 1		
Helston	23 Edward 1		
Saltash	6 Edward 6		
Camelford	6 Edward 6		
Westlooe	6 Edward 6		
Grampound	7 Edward 6		
Eastlooe	14 Edward 3	15 Edward 3	13 Elizabeth
Penryn	7 Edward 6		
Tregony	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1	5 Elizabeth
Bossiney	7 Edward 6		
St. Ives	4 & 5 P. & M.		
Fowey	14 Edward 2	15 Edward 2	13 Elizabeth
St. Germains	5 Elizabeth		
St. Michael	7 Edward 6		
Newport	7 Edward 6		
St. Maw's	5 Elizabeth		
Callington	27 Elizabeth		
Cumberland	ab origine		
Carlisle	23 Edward 1		
Cockermouth	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1	16 Charles 1
Derbyshire	ab origine		
Derby	23 Edward 1		
Devonshire	ab origine		
Exeter	23 Edward 1		
Totness	23 Edward 1		

Counties, Cities, and Boroughs.	When first summoned.	When discontinued.	When restored.
Plymouth	26 Edward 1	14 Edward 3	20 Edward 6
Oakhampton	28 Edward 1	7 Edward 2	16 Charles 1
Barnstaple	23 Edward 1		
Plympton	23 Edward 1		
Honiton	28 Edward 1	4 Edward 2	16 Charles 1
Tavistock	23 Edward 1	19 Edward 2	4 Edward 3
Ashburton	26 Edward 1	8 Henry 4	16 Charles 1
Dartmouth	26 Edward 1	27 Edward 1	24 Edward 3
Berealston	27 Elizabeth		
Tiverton	13 James 1		
Dorset	ab origine		
Poole	14 Edward 3	42 Edward 3	31 Henry 6
Dorchester	23 Edward 1		
Lyme Regis	23 Edward 1		
Weymouth	12 Edward 2	13 Edward 2	9 Edward 3
Melcombe Regis	8 Edward 2		
Bridport	23 Edward 1		
Shaftsbury	23 Edward 1		
Wareham	30 Edward 1	7 Edward 2	2 Edward 3
Corfe Castle	14 Elizabeth		
Durham County	30 Charles 2		
Durham City	30 Charles 2		
Essex	ab origine		
Malden	2 Edward 3		
Harwich	17 Edward 3	18 Edward 3	12 James 1
Colchester	23 Edward 1		
Gloucestershire	ab origine		
Gloucester	23 Edward 1		
Cirencester	13 Elizabeth		
Tewkesbury	7 James 1		
Hampshire	ab origine		
Winchester	23 Edward 1		
Southampton	23 Edward 1		
Portsmouth	23 Edward 1		
Yarmouth	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1	27 Elizabeth

Counties, Cities, and Boroughs.	When first summoned.	When discontinued.	When restored.
Newport	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1	27 Elizabeth
New Town	27 Elizabeth		
Petersfield	35 Edward 1	36 Edward	1 Edward 6
Stockbridge	1 Elizabeth		
Christchurch	35 Edward 1	3 Edward 2	13 Elizabeth
Lymington	27 Elizabeth		
Whitchurch	27 Elizabeth		
Andover	23 Edward 1	3 Edward 2	27 Elizabeth
Herefordshire	ab origine		
Hereford	23 Edward 1		
Leominster	23 Edward 1		
Weobly	23 Edward 1	1 Edward 2	15 Charles 1
Hertfordshire	ab origine		
St. Alban's	35 Edward 1	6 Edward 3	1 Edward 6
Hertford	23 Edward 1	6 Edward 3	21 James 1
Huntingdonshire	ab origine		
Huntingdon	23 Edward 1		
Kent	ab origine		
Canterbury	23 Edward 1		
Rochester	23 Edward 1		
Maidstone	Edward 6	Mary	2 Elizabeth
Queenborough	13 Elizabeth		
Lancashire	ab origine		
Lancaster	23 Edward 1	5 Edward 3	1 Edward 6
Newtown	1 Elizabeth		
Wigan	23 Edward 1	36 Edward 1	1 Edward 6
Clitheroe	1 Elizabeth		
Liverpool	23 Edward 1	36 Edward 1	1 Edward 6
Preston	23 Edward 1	2 Edward 2	1 Edward 6
Leicestershire	ab origine		
Leicester	23 Edward 1		
Lincolnshire	ab origine		
Lincoln	49 Henry 3		
Boston	11 Edward 3	28 Edward 3	1 Edward 6
Grimsby	23 Edward 1		

Counties, Cities, and Boroughs.	When first summoned.	When discontinued.	When restored.
Stamford	23 Edward 1	12 Edward 3	1 Edward 4
Grantham	2 Edward 4		
Middlesex	ab origine		
London	49 Henry 3		
Westminster	1 Edward 6		
Monmouthshire	27 Henry 8		
Monmouth	27 Henry 8		
Norfolk	ab origine		
Norwich	23 Edward 1		
Lynn Regis	23 Edward 1		
Yarmouth	23 Edward 1		
Thetford	1 Edward 6		
Castle Rising	5 P. and M.		
Northamptonshire	ab origine		
Peterborough	1 Edward 6		
Northampton	23 Edward 1		
Brackley	1 Edward 6		
Higham Ferrers	2 & 3 P.& M.		
Northumberland	ab origine		
Newcastle	23 Edward 1		
Morpeth	1 Mary		
Berwick	Henry 8		
Nottinghamshire			
Nottingham	23 Edward 1		
East Retford	9 Edward 2	10 Edward 2	13 Elizabeth
Newark	29 Charles 2		
Oxfordshire	ab origine		
Oxford University	1 James 1		
——— City	23 Edward 1		
Woodstock	30 Edward 1	34 Edward 1	1 Mary
Banbury	1 Mary		
Rutlandshire	ab origine		
Salop	ab origine		
Shrewsbury	23 Edward 1		
Bridgenorth	23 Edward 1		

Counties, Cities, and Boroughs.	When first summoned.	When discontinued.	When restored.
Ludlow	12 Edward 4		
Wenlock	18 Edward 4		
Bishop's Castle	15 Elizabeth		
Somersetshire	ab origine		
Bristol	23 Edward 1		
Bath	23 Edward 1		
Wells	23 Edward 1		
Taunton	23 Edward 1		
Bridgewater	23 Edward 1		
Minehead	1 Elizabeth		
Ilchester	23 Edward 1	35 Edward 3	12 Edward 4
		13 Edward 4	18 James 1
Milborne Port	26 Edward 1	36 Edward 1	15 Charles 1
Staffordshire	ab origine		
Litchfield	33 Edward 1	28 Edward 3	1 Edward 6
Stafford	23 Edward 1		
Newcastle	27 Edward 3		
Tamworth	5 Elizabeth		
Suffolk	ab origine		
Ipswich	23 Edward 1		
Dunwich	23 Edward 1		
Orford	23 Edward 1	1 Edward 2	Henry 8
Aldborough	13 Elizabeth		
Sudbury	1 Elizabeth		
Eye	13 Elizabeth		
St. Edmunds'Bury	4 James 1		
Surry	ab origine		
Southwark	uncertain		
Bletchingley	23 Edward 1		
Ryegate	23 Edward 1		
Guildford	23 Edward 1		
Gatton	29 Henry 6		
Haslemere	27 Elizabeth		
Sussex	ab origine		
Chichester	23 Edward 1		

Counties, Cities, and Boroughs.	When first summoned.	When discontinued.	When restored.
Horsham	23 Edward 1		
Medhurst	4 Edward 2		
Lewes	23 Edward 1		
New Shoreham	23 Edward 1		
Bramber	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1	31 Henry 6
Steyning	4 Edward 2	5 Edward 2	31 Henry 6
East Grinstead	1 Edward 2		
Arundel	23 Edward 1		
Warwickshire	ab origine		
Coventry	23 Edward 1	28 Edward 1	8 Edward 2
		25 Edward 3	31 Henry 6
Warwick	23 Edward 1		
Westmoreland	ab origine		
Appleby	23 Edward 1		
Wiltshire	ab origine		
Salisbury	23 Edward 1		
Wilton	23 Edward 1		
Downton	23 Edward 1	39 Edward 3	1 Henry 6
		2 Henry 5	20 Henry 6
Hinden	27 Henry 6		
Heytesbury	27 Henry 6		
Westbury	27 Henry 6		
Calne	23 Edward 1	2 Edward 2	34 Edward 2
		37 Edward 3	2 Richard 2
Devizes	23 Edward 1	20 Edward 2	4 Edward 3
Chippenham	23 Edward 1	5 Edward 3	2 Richard 2
		3 Richard 2	12 Henry 6
Malmsbury	23 Edward 1		
Cricklade	23 Edward 1	1 Edward 2	20 Edward 2
		21 Edward 2	Edward 3
		Richard 2	1 Henry 4
		10 Henry 5	Henry 6
Great Bedwin	23 Edward 1	9 Edward 2	36 Edward 3
		38 Edward 3	7 Richard 2
		1 Henry 4	9 Henry 5

Counties, Cities, and Boroughs.	When first summoned.	When discontinued.	When restored.
Ludgershall	23 Edward 1	4 Edward 2	1 Edward 3
		4 Edward 3	9 Richard 2
		10 Richard 2	9 Henry 5
Old Sarum	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1	34 Edward 3
Wotton Basset	25 Henry 6		
Marlborough	23 Edward 1		
Worcestershire	ab origine		
Worcester	23 Edward 1		
Droitwich	23 Edward 1	5 Edward 2	2 P. & M.
Evesham	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1	1 James 1
Bewdley	James 1		
Yorkshire	ab origine		
York	43 Henry 3		
Hull	33 Edward 1	34 Edward 1	12 Edward 2
Knaresborough	1 Mary		
Scarborough	23 Edward 1		
Rippon	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1	1 Edward 2
		3 Edward 2	1 Mary
Heydon	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1	1 Edward 6
Boroughbridge	1 Mary		
Aldborough	5 P. & M.		
Malton	23 Edward 1	27 Edward 1	15 Charles 1
Thirsk	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1	7 Edward 6
Beverley	23 Edward 1	1 Edward 2	5 Elizabeth
Northallerton	26 Edward 1	27 Edward 1	15 Charles 1
Pontefract	23 Edward 1	27 Edward 1	19 James 1
Richmond	27 Elizabeth		
CINQUE PORTS			
Hastings	42 Edward 3		
Dover	42 Edward 3		
Sandwich	42 Edward 3		
Hythe	42 Edward 3		
New Romney	42 Edward 3		

Counties, Cities, and Boroughs.	When first summoned.	When discontinued.	When restored.
Rye	42 Edward 3		
Winchelsea	42 Edward 3		
Seaford	26 Edward 1	31 Edward 1	16 Edward 2
		22 Edward 2	1 Henry 4
		5 Henry 4	16 Charles 1

WALES.

Counties, Cities, and Boroughs.	First Summoned.
Twelve Counties 12 Members Twelve Boroughs 12 Members	27 Henry 8

SCOTLAND.

Thirty Counties 30 Members Fifteen Boroughs 15 Members	6 Anne

IRELAND.

Thirty-two Couns. 64 Members Two Cities 4 Members University and Thirty-one Towns and Boroughs 32 Members	36 George 3

Having concluded the History of the Boroughs that at present return Members to Parliament, we think it highly important to add a list of those which sent members in different reigns, from that of Edward I. to the present time; describing the different periods at which they sent members, as is proved by the writs still extant, to which we shall also add, the name of such boroughs and towns as are so distinguished in their charters, and occur in the patent rolls and other records, which were doubtless parliamentary boroughs in the time of the Saxons, if not at later periods;—though no returns are to be found at the present time: and which, if restored, would constitute a parliament nearly as numerous as the present borough representation, and the constituent body be infinitely more numerous and respectable: and we conceive they have an equal claim with all the other boroughs which have been discontinued and restored.

Counties.	Boroughs.	Summoned.	Discontinued.
Bedfordshire	Dunstable	4 Edward 2	11 Edward 3
Berkshire	Newbury	30 Edward 1	31 Edward 1
Cambridgesh.	Ely	23 Edward 1	27 Edward 3
Cornwall	Polurun	11 Edward 3	12 Edward 3
Cumberland	Egremont	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1
Devonshire	Bradnesham	6 Edward 2	7 Edward 2
	Crediton	35 Edward 1	36 Edward 1
	Exmouth	14 Edward 3	15 Edward 3
	Fremington	6 Edward 3	7 Edward 3
	Liddeford	28 Edward 1	30 Edward 1
	Modbury	34 Edward 1	35 Edward 1
	South Moulton	30 Edward 1	31 Edward 1
	Teignmouth	14 Edward 3	15 Edward 3
	Torrington	23 Edward 1	45 Edward 3
Dorsetshire	Blandford	23 Edward 1	22 Edward 3
	Sherborn	11 Edward 3	12 Edward 3
Essex	Chelmsford	11 Edward 3	12 Edward 3

Counties.	Boroughs.	Summoned.	Discontinued.
Hampshire	Alresford	23 Edward 1	35 Edward 1
	Alton	23 Edward 1	4 Edward 2
	Basingstoke	23 Edward 1	4 Edward 2
	Fareham	34 Edward 1	36 Edward 1
	Odiham	28 Edward 1	36 Edward 1
	Overton	23 Edward 1	2 Edward 2
Herefordshire	Bromyard	33 Edward 1	34 Edward 1
	Ledbury	23 Edward 1	34 Edward 1
	Ross	33 Edward 1	34 Edward 1
Hertfordshire	Berkhamstead	11 Edward 3	15 Edward 3
	Stortefort	4 Edward 2	15 Edward 3
Kent	Greenwich	4 & 5 P. & M.	6 P. & M.
	Tunbridge	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1
Lancashire	Manchester	Commonwea.	
Leicestershire	Melton Mowbray	11 Edward 3	12 Edward 3
Lincolnshire	Spalding	11 Edward 3	12 Edward 3
	Waynfleet	11 Edward 3	12 Edward 3
Northumberl.	Bamberg	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1
	Corbigg	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1
Oxfordshire	Burford	34 Edward 1	35 Edward 1
	Chipping Norton	28 Edward 1	34 Edward 1
	Doddington	30 Edward 1	34 Edward 1
	Witney	33 Edward 1	5 Edward 3
Somersetshire	Axbridge	23 Edward 1	17 Edward 3
	Chard	28 Edward 1	3 Edward 3
	Dunster	34 Edward 3	35 Edward 3
	Glastonbury	12 Edward 3	13 Edward 3
	Langport	33 Edward 1	36 Edward 1
	Montacute	33 Edward 1	34 Edward 1
	Stoke Curcy	34 Edward 3	35 Edward 3
	Watchet	30 Edward 1	31 Edward 1
	Were	34 Edward 1	36 Edward 1
Suffolk	Yarmouth Parva	11 Edward 3	12 Edward 3
Surry County	Farnham	4 Edward 2	38 Henry 6
	Kingston upon Tha.	4 Edward 2	47 Edward 3
Wiltshire	Bradford	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1

Counties.	Boroughs.	Summoned.	Discontinued.
Wiltshire	Mere	23 Edward 1	1 Edward 2
	Highworth	26 Edward 1	27 Edward 4
Worcestersh.	Bromsgrove	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1
	Dudley	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1
	Kidderminster	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1
	Pershore	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1
Yorkshire	Doncaster	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1
	Jervale	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1
	Pickering	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1
	Ravenser	33 Edward 1	12 Edward 3
	Tykhull	23 Edward 1	24 Edward 1
	Halifax	Commonwea.	
	Whitby	Commonwea.	
	Leeds	Commonwea.	
Calais in France		27 Henry 8	3 P. & M.

In all *sixty-eight* boroughs which sent members to parliament in different reigns, and are now deprived of that invaluable right; beside which we find *ninety-seven* other boroughs which have charters, and have most probably sent members at some former period since the reign of Edward 1., but for which no summonses are to be found, though they were unquestionably parliamentary boroughs in the time of the Saxon monarchy, when every borough in England was represented, as well as the rural tythings, who chose their representatives in the county courts.

Counties.	Boroughs.
Berkshire	Thatcham
Cambridgeshire	Wisbeach
Chester	Altringham
	Congleton
	Macclesfield
	Middlewich

Counties.	Boroughs.
Cornwall	Botreaux Castle
	Crofthole
	Kilkhampton
	Milbrook
	Padstow
Derby	Bakewell
	Chesterfield
Devonshire	Bidyford
	Bampton
	Chadlington
	Chalveley
	Cholmley
	Cornworthy
	Denbery
	Hartland
	Ilford Combe
	Keneford
	Kingsbridge
	Milverton
	Newton-Abbas
	Pepelford
	Sampford Peverel
	Seal
	Twikebere
	Thalampton
Dorsetshire	Bere
	Winburnminster
	Milton
Durham	Bernard's Castle
	Hartlepool
	Stockton
	Sunderland
Essex	Bradfield
	Rawleigh
	Thaxted
Gloucestershire	Avening

Counties	Boroughs.
Gloucestershire	Berkley
	St. Berwalds
	Chipping Campden
	Cheltenham
	Frampton
	Letchlade
	Newnham
	Chipping Sodbury
	Tetbury
	Thornbury
	Wottonunderidge
Herefordshire	Ewias Lacy
	Pembridge
	Wigmore
Huntingdon	Godmanchester
Kent	Deal
Monmouthshire	Abergavenny
	Caerleon
	Chepstow
	Newport
	Uske
Northamptonshire	Daventry
	Rothewell
Norfolk	Bernay
Northumberland	Alnmouth
	Alnwick
	Harbottle
	Warnmouth
Salop	Clebury
	Lidham
	Oswestry
	Wortham
	Worthing
Somersetshire	Somerton
	Wellington
	Wincanton

Counties.	Boroughs.
Somersetshire	Yeovill
Southampton	Porchester
	Rumsey
	Westover
Staffordshire	Betely
	Burton-upon-Trent
	Tutbury
	Walsall
Suffolk	Bungey
	Budesdale
	Clare
	Mendlesham
Surry	Langhurst
Sussex	Pevensey
Warwick	Birmingham
	Stratford-upon-Avon
Westmoreland	Kendall
York	Leeds
	Skelton

Lambert, in his perambulation of Kent, reckons near forty places in the Lath of St. Augustine, under the denomination of boroughs, which being now villages we omit—as Brown Willis does several corporations in that and other counties, because he does not meet with them under the stile of ancient boroughs: and in Wales we meet with near twenty boroughs; but as they are most of them included in the sheriff's precept for choosing the members of the shire towns, they will be found in the History of the Welch representation.

It may be concluded that all corporations or boroughs had an inherent right to representation, if they had been desirous to have exerted it; but as that franchise was formerly expensive, they no doubt industriously declined it.

As Agmondesham, Marlow, and Wendover, in the county of

Buckingham, were restored upon petition to Parliament, on the 4th May, 1624, to the privilege of sending representatives; after having lost that right from the 2nd of Edward II. until the 21st of James I., a period of four hundred years:—we conceive the above boroughs to have an equal claim to the same justice.

By the above tables it appears, that one hundred and sixty-four boroughs, exclusive of Calais in France, which formerly sent members to Parliament, are now disfranchised; and that boroughs have been created and annihilated from the reign of Edward I. to that of Charles II. inclusive, at the caprice of each successive monarch. We may here be allowed to ask the enemies of reform, whether the constitution would receive a greater injury from the disfranchisement of Old Sarum, Gatton, Castle Rising, or Midhurst, than it has at present sustained from the disqualification of Leeds or Manchester? It surely becomes necessary to abolish the existing rotten boroughs; or, according to the argument of our opponents, to make the constitution complete, by restoring the one hundred and sixty-four which have been discontinued.

No. V.

EQUAL REPRESENTATION

OF

THE PEOPLE

IN THE

TIME OF THE COMMONWEALTH:

A List of the Parliament, consisting of the Knights of the Counties, Citizens of the Cities, Burgesses of the Boroughs and Towns, and Barons of the Cinque Ports of England, Scotland, and Ireland, began at Westminster, Sept. 3, 1654, and held to January 22, following, in which all the *Rotten Boroughs* were omitted.

Bedfordshire	Sir William Boteler, knt.	
	John Harvey, esq.	
	Edmund Wingate, esq.	
	John Neal, esq.	
	Samuel Bedford, esq.	
Bedford Town	Bulstrode Whitlock, one of the Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal	6
Berkshire	George Purefoy, esq.	
	Edmund Dunch, esq.	
	Sir Robert Pye, knt.	
	John Dunch, esq.	
	John Southby, esq.	
Abingdon	Thomas Holt, esq.	
Reading	Robert Hammond, esq.	7

Buckinghamshire	Bulstrode Whitlock, one of the Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal.	
	Sir Richard Pigot, knt.	
	Richard Ingoldsby, esq.	
	Richard Greenville, esq.	
	George Fleetwood, esq.	
Buckingham Town	T. Francis Ingoldsby, esq.	
Aylesbury	Henry Phillips, esq.	
Chipping Wycombe	Thomas Scot	8
Cambridgeshire	John Desbrow, esq.	
	Francis Russel, esq.	
	Henry Pickering, esq.	
	Robert Castel, esq.	
Cambridge (Town)	Richard Timbs, Alderman, of Cambridge	
Cambridge (Univ.)	Lord Henry Cromwell	
Isle of Ely	John Thurloe, esq., secretary of state	
	George Glapthorn, esq.	8
Cheshire	John Bradshaw, sergeant at law, Chief Justice of Chester	
	Sir George Booth, bart.	
	Henry Brook, esq.	
	John Crew, of Ukinton, esq.	
Chester (City)	Charles Walley, esq.	5
Cornwall	Thomas Gewen, esq.	
	Anthony Nicholl, esq.	
	Thomas Ceeley, esq.	
	Richard Carter, esq.	
	Anthony Rous, esq.	
	James Launce, esq.	
	Walter Moyle, esq.	
	Charles Boscawen, esq.	
Dunheved al. Launceston	Robert Bennet, esq.	

Truro	Francis Rous, esq.	
Penryn	John Fox, esq.	11
Cumberland	Charles Howard, esq.	
	William Brisco, esq.	
Carlisle (City)	Colonel Thomas Fitch	3
Derbyshire	Nathaniel Barton, esq.	
	Thomas Sanders, esq.	
	Edward Gill, esq.	
	John Gell, esq.	
Derby (Town)	Gervase Bennet, esq.	5
Devonshire	Robert Rell, esq.	
	Arthur Upton, esq.	
	Thomas Reynell, esq.	
	William Morris, esq.	
	John Hale, esq.	
	William Bastard, esq.	
	William Fry, esq.	
	Thomas Sanders, esq.	
	Sir John Northcot, bart.	
	Henry Hatsel, esq.	
	John Quick, esq.	
Exeter (City)	Thomas Bamfield, esq.	
	Thomas Gibbons, esq.	
Plymouth	Christopher Ceeley, merchant	
	William Yeo, esq.	
Dartmouth	Thomas Boon, esq.	
Clift. Hard.		
Totness	John Desbrowe, esq., one of the Generals at Sea	
Barnstable	John Doddridge, esq.	
Tiverton	Robert Shapcot	
	Major John Blackmore	
Honiton	Sir John Young, knt.	21
Dorsetshire	William Sydenham, esq.	
	John Bingham, esq.	
	Sir Walter Earl, knt.	

	John Fitzjames, esq.	
	John Trenchard, esq.	
	Henry Henley, esq.	
Dorchester	John Whiteway, esq.	
Weymouth and Melcombe Regis	Dennis Bond, esq.	
Lyme Regis	Edmund Prideaux, esq. attorney-general.	
Pool	Sir Anthony Ashley Cooper, knt. and bart.	10
Durham	Col. Robert Lilborne	
	George Lilburn, esq.	
Durham (City)	Anthony Smith, mercer	3
Essex	Sir William Masham, bart.	
	Sir Richard Everard, bart.	
	Sir Thomas Honeywood, knt.	
	Sir Thomas Bowes, knt.	
	Henry Mildmay, esq.	
	Thomas Coke, esq.	
	Carew Mildmay, esq.	
	Dionysius Wakering, esq.	
	Edward Turner, esq.	
	Richard Cutts, esq.	
	Oliver Raymond, esq.	
	Herbert Pelham, esq.	
Malden	Joachim Matthews	
Colchester	Col. John Barkstead, Lieutenant of the Tower	
	John Maidstone, esq.	15
Gloucestershire	George Berkley, esq.	
	Matthew Hale, one of the Justices of the Common Bench	
	John How, esq.	
	Christopher Guise, esq.	
	Sylvanus Wood, esq.	
Gloucester (City)	William Lenthall, esq. master of the rolls	

Gloucester	Thomas Pury, senior, esq.	
Tewkesbury	Sir Anthony Ashley Cooper, bart.	
Cirencester	John Stone, esq.	9
Herefordshire	John Scudamore, esq.	
	John Pateshal, esq.	
	John Flacket, esq.	
	Richard Read, esq.	
Hereford	Bennet Hoskins, esq.	
Leominster	John Birch, esq.	6
Hertfordshire	Henry Lawrence, Lord President	
	William, Earl of Salisbury	
	Sir John Wittewrong, knt.	
	Sir Richard Lucy, knt. and bart.	
	Thomas Nicholl, esq.	
St. Alban's	Alban Cox, esq.	
Hertford	Isaac Pulter, esq.	7
Huntingdonshire	Edward Montague, esq. one of his Highness's Council	
	Henry Cromwell, the younger, of Ramsey, esq.	
	Stephen Pheasant, esq.	
Huntingdon	John Bernard, esq.	4
Kent	William James, esq.	
	John Dixwell, esq.	
	John Boys, esq.	
	Sir Henry Vane, senior, knt.	
	Ralph Weldon, esq.	
	Lambert Godfrey, esq.	
	Richard Beal, esq.	
	Henry Oxinden, esq.	
	Agustine Skinner, esq.	
	Daniel Shatterden, esq.	
	John Seyliard, junior, esq.	
Canterbury	Thomas Scot, esq.	

	Francis Butcher	
Rochester	John Parker, esq., Recorder	
Maidstone	John Banks, jun., gent.	
Queenborough	Augustine Garland, esq.	16
Lancashire	Richard Holland, esq.	
	Gilbert Ireland, esq.	
	Richard Standish, esq.	
	William Ashurst, esq.	
Preston in Amound	Richard Shuttleworth	
Lancaster	Henry Porter, esq.	
Liverpool	Thomas Birch, sen., esq.	
Manchester	Charles Worsley, esq.	8
Leicestershire	Thomas Beaumont, esq.	
	Henry, Earl of Stamford	
	Thomas, Lord Grey, of Grooby	
	Thomas Pochin, esq.	
Leicester	Sir Arthur Hasilrig	
	William Stanley, gent. and Alderman of the Borough.	6
Lincolnshire	Edward Rossiter, esq.	
	Thomas Hall, esq.	
	Thomas Lister, esq.	
	Charles Hall, esq.	
	Francis Clinton, esq.	
	Alderman Finis	
	Thomas Hatcher, esq.	
	William Wooley, esq.	
	William Savile, esq.	
	William Welby, esq.	
	John Wray, esq.	
Lincoln	William Marshal, Alderman,	
Boston	William Ellis, esq.	
Grantham	William Bury, sen., esq.	
Stamford	John Weaver, esq.	
Great Grimsby	William Wray, esq.	16
Middlesex	Sir William Roberts, knt.	

	Josiah Berners, esq.	
	Sir James Harrington, knt. and bart.	
	Edmund Harvey, esq.	
Westminster	Thomas Latham, esq.	
	Thomas Fauconbridge, esq.	
London	Thomas Foot, Alderman	
	William Steel, Sergeant at Law, Recorder	
	Thomas Adams, esq.	
	John Langham, esq.	
	Samuel Avery, esq.	
	Andrew Riccard, esq.	12
Monmouthshire	Richard, Lord Cromwell	
	Colonel Philip Jones	2
Norfolk	Sir John Hobart, bart.	
	Sir William Doyley, knt.	
	Sir Ralph Hare, bart.	
	Thomas Weld, esq.	
	Robert Wilton, esq.	
	Thomas Sotherton, esq.	
	Philip Woodhouse, esq.	
	Robert Wood, sen., esq.	
	Philip Bedingfield, sen., esq.	
	Tobias Frere, esq.	
Norwich	Bernard, Church, esq.	
	John Hobart, esq.	
Lynn Regis	Philip Skippon, one of the council	
	Guybon Goddard, esq., recorder there	
Great Yarmouth	Colonel William Goffe	
	Thomas Dun, gent.	16
Northamptonshire	Sir Gilbert Pickering, bart., one of his Highnesses Council	
	John Crew, sen., esq.	

	Sir John Norwich, knt. and bart.	
	John Cleypool, sen., esq.	
	Sir John Dryden, bart.	
	Thomas Brook, esq.	
Peterborough	Humphrey Orm, esq.	
	Alexander Blake, esq.	
Northampton	T. Peter Whalley, gent.	9
Northumberland	William Fenwick, esq.	
	Robert Fenwick, esq.	
	Henry Ogle, esq.	
Newcastle on Tyne	Sir Arthur Hasilrig, bart.	
Berwick on Tweed	George Fenwick, esq.	5
Nottinghamshire	William Pierpont, esq.	
	Edward Whalley, esq.	
	Edward Nevill, esq.	
	Charles White, esq.	
Nottingham	James Chadwick, esq.	
	John Mason, gent.	6
Oxfordshire	Robert Jenkinson, esq.	
	Charles Fleetwood, Lieut.-Gen. of Ireland	
	Colonel James Whitlock	
	Nathaniel Fines, esq.	
	WILLIAM LENTHALL, ESQ. SPEAKER	
Oxford City	Bulstrode Whitlock, one of the Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal	
Oxford University	John Owen, D.D.	
Woodstock	Lieut.-Gen. Charles Fleetwood	8
Rutlandshire	William Shield, esq.	
	Edward Horseman, esq.	
Salop	Humphrey Mackworth, sen., esq.	
	Thomas Mitton, esq.	
	Robert Corbet, esq.	
	Philip Yong, esq.	

Shrewsbury	Richard Cheshire, gent.	
	Humphrey Mackworth, sen., gent.	
Bridgenorth	William Crown, esq.	
Ludlow	John Aston, gent.	8
Somersetshire	Sir John Horner, knt.	
	John Buckland, esq.	
	General John Desborough	
	John Preston, esq.	
	John Harrington, esq.	
	John Ash, esq.	
	Charles Steynings, esq.	
	Robert Long, esq.	
	Richard Jones, esq.	
	Thomas Hippesley, esq.	
	Samuel Perry, esq.	
Bristol	Robert Aldworth, esq.	
	Miles Jackson, esq.	
Bath	Colonel Alexander Popham	
Wells	Lislebone Long, esq.	
Taunton	Thomas George, esq.	
	John Georges, esq.	
Bridgewater	Colonel Robert Blake	18
Southampton County	Richard, Lord Cromwell	
	Richard Norton, esq.	
	Richard Major, esq.	
	John St. Barbe, esq.	
	Robert Wallop, esq.	
	Francis Rivet, esq.	
	Edward Hooper, esq.	
	John Bulkley, esq.	
Winchester	John Hildesley, esq.	
Southampton	John Lisle, one of the Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal, and Recorder of the said Town.	

Portsmouth	Nathaniel Whetham, esq.	
Andover	John Duns, of Hurstley, esq.	
Isle of Wight	Colonel William Sydenham, one of his Highness's Council	
	Lord Lysle, one of the Commismissioners of the Great Seal	14
Staffordshire	Sir Charles Wolseley, bart.	
	Thomas Crompton, esq.	
	Thomas Whitgrave, esq.	
Litchfield	Thomas Minors, esq.	
Stafford	John Bradshaw, esq., Sergeant at Law	
Newcastle-under-Line	Edward Keeling, gent.	6
Suffolk	Sir Thomas Barnardiston, knt.	
	Sir William Spring, bart.	
	Sir Thomas Beddingfield, knt.	
	William Bloys, esq.	
	John Gurdon, esq.	
	William Gibbs, esq.	
	John Brandling, esq.	
	Alexander Bence, esq.	
	John Sicklemore, esq.	
	Thomas Bacon, esq.	
Ipswich	Nathaniel Bacon, esq.	
	Francis Bacon, esq.	
St. Edmunds' Bury	Samuel Moody, esq.	
	John Clark, esq.	
Dunwich	Robert Brewster	
Sudbury	John Fothergill, esq.	16
Surry	Sir Richard Onslow, knt.	
	John Lambert, Major-General	
	Arthur Onslow, esq.	
	Francis Drake, esq.	
	Robert Holman, esq.	
	Robert Wood, esq.	
Southwark	Samuel Highland, esq.	

	Robert Warcup, esq.	
Guildford	Richard Hiller, gent.	
Rygate	Edward Bishe, esq.	11
Sussex	Herbert Morley, esq.	
	John Stapley, esq.	
	John Fagg, esq.	
	William Hay, esq.	
	John Pelham, esq.	
	Anthony Stapeley, esq.	
	Sir Thomas Pelham, bart.	
	Francis, Lord Dacres	
	Herbert Sprungat, esq.	
Chichester	Henry Peckham, esq., Recorder	
Lewes	Henry Shelley, esq.	
East Grinsted	John Goodwin, esq.	
Arundel	Anthony Shirley, esq.	13
Warwickshire	Richard Lucy, esq.	
	Thomas Willoughby, esq.	
	Sir Richard Temple, bart.	
	William Purefoy, esq.	
Coventry	William Purefoy, esq.	
	Robert Beak, esq.	
Warwick	Richard Lucy, esq.	7
Westmoreland	Christopher Lister, esq.	
	Jeremy Baynes, esq.	2
Wiltshire	Sir Anthony Ashley Cooper, bart.	
	Alexander Popham, esq.	
	Thomas Grove, esq.	
	Alexander Thistlethwaite, esq.	
	Francis Hollis, esq.	
	John Ernly, esq.	
	William York, esq.	
	John Norden, esq.	
	James Ash, esq.	
	Gabriel Martin, esq.	
New Sarum	Edward Tooker, esq.	

	William Stevens, esq., Recorder there	
Marlborough	Lieut.-gen. Charles Fleetwood	
Devizes	Edward Baynton, esq.	14
Worcestershire	Sir Thomas Rous, bart.	
	Edward Pitt, esq.	
	Nicholas Lechmere, esq.	
	John Bridges, esq.	
	Talbot Badger, esq.	
Worcester	William Collins, esq.	
	Edward Elvines, esq., Alderman	7
Yorkshire	Thomas, Lord Fairfax	
West Riding	John Lambert, esq., one of his Highness's Council	
	Henry Tempest, esq.	
	John Bright, esq.	
	Edward Gill, esq.	
	Martin Lister, esq.	
East Riding	Sir William Strickland, bart.	
	Walter Strickland, esq., one of his Highness's Council	
	Hugh Bethel, esq.	
	Richard Robinson, esq.	
North Riding	George, Lord Eure.	
	Francis Lascelles, esq.	
	Thomas Harrison, esq.	
	George Smithson, esq.	
York	Sir Thomas Widdrington, one of the Commissioners of the Great Seal	
	Thomas Dickenson, Alderman	
Kingston-on-Hull	William Lister, esq.	
Beverley	Francis Thorp, one of the Barons of the Exchequer	
Scarborough	John Wildman, esq.	
Richmond	John Wastal, esq.	
Leeds	Adam Bayns, esq.	
Halifax	Jeremy Bentley, gent.	22

CINQUE PORTS		
Dover	William Cullen, esq.	
Sandwich	Thomas Kelsey, esq.	
Rye	Herbert Morley, esq.	3

WALES.

Anglesea County	George Twisleton, esq.	
	William Foxwist, esq.	
Brecknockshire	Henry, Lord Herbert	
	Edmund Jones, esq.	
Cardiganshire	James Phillips, esq.	
	Jenkin Lloyd, esq.	
Caermarthenshire	John Cleypool, esq.	
	Rowland Dawkins, esq.	
Caernarvonshire	John Glynn, esq., Sergeant at Law	
	Thomas Mostyn, esq.	
Denbighshire	Colonel Simon Thelwall	
	Colonel John Carter	
Flintshire	John Trevor, esq.	
	Andrew Ellis, esq.	
Glamorganshire	Philip Jones, esq., one of his Highness's Council	
	Edmund Thomas, esq.	
Cardiff	John Price, esq.	
Merionethshire	John Vaughan, esq.	
Montgomeryshire	Sir John Price, bart.	
	Charles Lloyd, esq.	
Pembrokeshire	Sir Erasmus Phillips	
	Arthur Owen, esq.	
Haverford-West	John Upton, esq.	
Radnorshire	George Gwynn, esq.	
	Henry William, esq.	25

SCOTLAND.

1. *COUNTIES.*

Ross, Sutherland, and Cromarty	Doctor Thomas Cleargies	1
Inverness	Colonel Thomas Fitch	1
Bamff	Master Alexander Douglas, esq.	1
Aberdeen	Colonel William Mitchel	1
Forfar and Kincardine	Colonel David Barclay, of Urie	1
Fife and Kinross	Sir John Wemys, of Bongie	1
Perth	Sir Edward Rhodes, one of his Highness's Council	1
Linlithgow, Stirling, and Clackmannan	Master Godfrey Rhodes, esq.	1
Dumbarton, Argyll, and Bute	Master John Lockhart, esq.	1
Ayr and Renfrew	William, Lord Cochrane, of Dundonald	1
Lanark	Colonel William Lockhart, of Lee, one of his Highness's Council	1
Mid-Lothian	Samuel Desborow, esq., one of his Highness's Council	1
Merce	John Swinton, of Swinton, esq., one of his Highness's Council	1
Roxburgh	Master Ker, of Newton, esq.	1
Selkirk and Peebles	Henry Whalley, Judge Advocate of the armies in England and Scotland	1
Dumfries	George Smith, esq., one of the Judges in Scotland	1
Wigton	Sir James Mac Dowel, knt.	1
East Lothian	John, Earl of Tweedale	1

2. *BOROUGHS.*

Dennobb, Tayn, Inverness, Dingwall, Nairn, Elgin, and Farras	Master Robert Wooseley, Commissary of Ayrshire	1
Bamff and Aberdeen	Colonel Stephen Vinthropegesse, of Aberdeen	1
Forfar, Dundee, Arbroth, Montrose, and Buchan	Sir Alexander Wedderburn	1
Linlithgow, Perth, Queen's Ferry, Culross, and Sterling	Colonel Henry Markham	1
St. Andrews, Dysart, Kirkaldy, Cupar, Anstruther-East, Anstruther-West, Pittenween, Crail, Dumfermling, Kinghorn, Inner-Kething, Kilrenny, and Bruntisland	Colonel Nathaniel Wetham	1
Edinburgh City	Right Hon. Lord Broghil, President of his Highness's Council in Scotland	
	Andrew Ramsey, Lord Provost of Edinburgh	2
Lanark, Glasgow, Rutherglen, Rothsay, Renfrew, Ayr, Irwyn, and Dumbarton	George Terbrax, esq.	1
Dumfries, Sanclare, Lockmaben, Annand, Wigton, Kircudbright, Whitehorn, and Gallowry	Colonel Salmon	1
Peebles, Selkirk, Jedburgh, Lauder, North Berwick, Dunbar, and Hadington	George Downing, esq.	1

IRELAND.

1. *COUNTIES.*

Meath and Lowth	John Fowk, esq:	
	William Aston, esq.	2
Kildare and Wicklow	Sir Hardress Waller	
	Anthony Morgan, esq.	2
Dublin	John Bysse, esq., Recorder of Dublin	1
Dublin City	Richard Tighe, esq., Mayor of Dublin	1
Carlow, Wexford, Kilkenny, and Queen's County	Thomas Sadler, esq.	1
	Daniel Redman, esq.	1
Westmeath, Longford, and King's County	Sir Theophilus Jones,	
	Henry Owen, esq.	2
Down, Antrim, and Armagh	Colonel Thomas Cooper	
	Lieut.-Colonel James Trayle	2
Derry, Donegal, and Tyrone	Tristram Beresford, esq.	
	Thomas Newburgh, esq.	2
Cavan, Fermanneh, and Monaghan	Richard Blayney, esq.	1
Kerry, Limerick, and Clare	Sir Hardress Waller	
	Henry Ingoldsby, esq.	2
Cork	Roger Boyle, esq.	
	Lord Broghil	2
Tipperary and Waterford	Sir John Reynolds	
	Daniel Abbot, esq.	2
Sligo, Roscommon, and Leitrim	Sir Robert King	
	John Bridges, esq.	2
Galway and Mayo	Sir Charles Coot	
	Lieutenant-Colonel John Bret	2

2. *TOWNS.*

Carrickfergus and Belfast	John Davis, esq.	1
Derry and Colerane	Ralph King, esq.	1
Limerick and Killmallock	Walter Waller, esq.	1
Cork and Youghal	William Jephson, esq.	1
Bandon and Kinsale	Vincent Gookyn, esq.	1
Waterford and Clonmel	William Halsey, esq.	1

A second Parliament, similar to the above, was assembled the 17th of September, 1656, and continued sitting to June 26, 1657. It was dissolved the 4th of February following.

No. VI.

A Table of the Duration

Of the several Parliaments from the Beginning of the reign of Henry VIII. to the present Time.

Names of the Monarchs.	When met.		When dissolved.		Existed. Y.	M.	D.
Henry the Eighth	21 January,	1509	23 February,	1509	0	1	2
	4 February,	1511	4 March,	1513	2	1	0
	5 February,	1514	22 December	1515	1	10	17
	15 April,	1523	13 August,	1523	0	3	29
	3 November,	1530	4 April,	1536	5	5	1
	8 June,	1536	18 July,	1536	0	1	10
	28 April,	1539	24 July,	1540	1	2	26
	16 January,	1541	29 March,	1544	3	2	13
	23 November,	1545	31 January,	1547	1	2	8
Edward the Sixth	4 November,	1547	15 April,	1552	4	5	11
	1 March,	1553	31 March,	1553	0	1	0
Mary	5 October,	1553	6 December,	1553	0	2	1
	2 April,	1554	5 May	1554	0	1	3
	12 November,	1554	16 January,	1555	0	2	4
	21 October,	1555	9 December,	1555	0	1	18
	20 January,	1557	17 November,	1557	0	9	28
Elizabeth	23 January,	1558	8 May,	1558	0	3	16
	11 January,	1562	2 January,	1567	4	11	22

Names of the Monarchs.	When met.		When dissolved.		Existed. Y.	M.	D.
Elizabeth	2 April,	1571	29 May,	1571	0	1	27
	8 May,	1572	18 March,	1580	7	10	10
	23 November,	1585	14 September,	1586	0	9	21
	29 October,	1586	23 March,	1587	0	4	23
	4 February,	1588	29 March,	1588	0	1	25
	19 November,	1592	10 April,	1593	0	4	22
	24 October,	1597	9 February,	1598	2	3	16
	7 October,	1601	29 December,	1601	0	2	22
James the First	19 March,	1603	9 February,	1611	7	10	21
	5 April,	1614	7 June,	1614	0	2	2
	30 January,	1620	8 February,	1621	1	0	9
	19 February,	1623	24 March,	1625	2	1	5
Charles the First	17 May,	1625	12 August,	1625	0	2	26
	6 February,	1626	15 June,	1626	0	4	9
	17 March,	1627	10 March,	1628	0	11	23
	13 April,	1640	3 May,	1640	0	0	22
	3 November,	1640	20 April,	1653	12	5	17
Charles the Second	25 April,	1660	29 December,	1660	0	8	4
	8 May,	1661	24 January,	1698	16	8	16
	6 March,	1679	12 July,	1679	0	4	6
	17 October	1679	18 January,	1681	1	3	1

Names of the Monarchs.	When met.		When dissolved.		Existed. Y.	M.	D.
Charles the Second	21 March,	1681	28 March,	1681	0	0	7
James the Second	12 March,	1685	28 July,	1687	2	4	16
	22 January,	1688	26 February,	1689	1	1	4
William the Third	20 March,	1689	11 October,	1695	6	6	22
	27 November,	1695	7 July,	1698	2	7	10
	24 August,	1698	19 December,	1700	2	3	26
	26 February,	1700	11 November,	1701	1	8	5
	30 December,	1701	7 July,	1702	0	6	2
Anne	20 August,	1702	5 April,	1705	2	7	16
	14 June,	1705	15 April,	1708	2	10	1
	8 July	1708	21 September,	1710	2	2	13
	25 November,	1710	8 August,	1713	2	8	14
	12 November,	1713	15 January,	1715	1	2	3
George the First	17 March,	1715	10 March,	1721	5	11	21
	10 May,	1722	5 August,	1727	5	2	26
George the Second	28 November,	1727	18 April,	1734	6	4	21
	13 June,	1734	28 April,	1741	6	10	15
	27 June,	1741	18 June,	1747	5	11	24
	13 August	1747	8 April,	1754	6	7	26
	31 May,	1754	20 March,	1761	6	9	20
George the Third	21 May,	1761	12 March,	1768	6	9	21

Names of the Monarchs.	When met.		When dissolved.		Existed. Y.	M.	D.
George the Third	10 May,	1768	30 September,	1774	6	4	20
	29 November,	1774	1 September,	1780	5	9	3
	31 October,	1780	25 March,	1784	3	4	25
	18 May,	1784	10 June,	1790	6	0	23
	25 November,	1790	19 May,	1796	5	5	24
	27 September,	1796	29 June,	1802	6	9	3
	31 August,	1802	24 October,	1806	4	1	25
	25 November,	1806	27 May,	1807	0	6	2
	27 November,	1807	24 November,	1812	5	0	0

From an attentive consideration of the above statement, which is drawn up with as much accuracy as possible from the Rolls and Journals of both Houses of Parliament, the following facts may be deduced:

In the first place it appears, that, since the year 1500, (when it is generally supposed that the duration of Parliaments was extended beyond one year,) only four Parliaments have existed beyond seven years, and that only eight more have had a sexennial duration.

In the second place, it is sufficiently evident, that of the rest only five Parliaments have lasted above five years, only two Parliaments above four, and but two above three.

Thirdly, of the remaining number only nine existed above two years, and no less than thirty-four for a shorter period.

Lastly, it is certain that, one Parliament with another, the duration of each, since the reign of Henry the Seventh, does not exceed the space of two years and about nine months, even including the long Parliament in the reign of King Charles the First, and the still longer one which his son retained in existence for the enormous period of about seventeen years.

No. VII.

A List of the Speakers

OF THE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

FROM THE REIGN OF KING HENRY III. TO THE PRESENT TIME; TOGETHER WITH THE NAME OF THE PLACE THEY REPRESENTED IN PARLIAMENT.

King Henry III.

Year.	Name.	Place returned for.
1260	Petre de Montfort	
	Johannes Tiptoft	
	King Edward I.	
	No speaker's name to be found upon record.	
	King Edward II.	
1326	William Trussell is said to have been speaker in Parliament on the Deposition of Edward II., 1326.	
	King Edward III.	
1332	Sir Henry Beaumont	
1833	—— Scroope	
1376	Sir Peter de la Mare supposed to be the first regular speaker	Herefordshire
1387	Sir Thomas Hungerford Hakewell expressly says he was the first named speaker on record.	Wiltshire
	King Richard II.	
1377	Sir Petre de la Mare	Herefordshire

Year.	Name.	Place returned for.
1378	Sir James Pickering	Westmoreland
1380 1381	Sir John Goldsborough	Essex
1382	Sir Richard Waldegrave	Suffolk
1386	Sir James Pickering	Westmoreland
1494 1397 1398	Sir John Bushey Hakewell says he was presented to the King in full Parliament by the Commons, the first we find so presented; he was a special minion to the King.	Lincolnshire
	King Henry IV.	
1399	Sir John Chiney he growing infirm and unable to serve,	Gloucestershire
	John Dorwood, esq. was delegated to serve in his place	Essex
1400	Sir Arnold Savage	Kent
1403	Sir Henry Rediford	Lincolnshire
1404	Sir Arnold Savage (again)	Kent
1405	Sir William Esturmy	Devonshire
	Do. the same year	
	Sir John Chiny also appears as speaker in this Parliament	Cornwall
1406	Sir John Tiptoft	Huntingdonshire
1408 1409 1412	Thomas Chaucer, esq.	Oxfordshire
	King Henry V.	
1413	William Stourton, esq. but he being sick,	Dorsetshire
	John Dorword, esq. was chosen in his room	Essex
1414	Walter Hungerford, esq.	Wiltshire

Year.	Name.	Place returned for.
1415	Thomas Chaucer, esq.	Oxfordshire
	Richard Redman, esq.	Yorkshire
	Sir Walter Beauchamp	Wiltshire
1416, 1417, 1419	Roger Flower, esq.	Rutlandshire
1421	Richard Banyard, esq.	Essex
	King Henry VI.	
1422	Roger Flower, esq. (again)	Rutlandshire
1423	John Russell, esq.	Herefordshire
1425	Sir Thomas Waughton	Bedfordshire
1426	Richard Vernon, esq.	Derbyshire
1428	John Tyrrel, esq.	Essex
1430	William Atlington, esq.	Cambridgeshire
1431	John Tyrrel, esq. (again)	Essex
1432	John Russell, esq. (again)	Herefordshire
1433	Roger Hunt, esq.	Huntingdonshire
1436	John Bowes, esq.	
	Here the records being imperfect, it is presumed he sat for Northumberland.	
1439	Sir John Tyrrel	Essex
	(for a third and fourth time)	
	William Boerley, esq.	Shropshire
1440	William Tresham, esq.	Northamptonsh.
1445	William Boerley, esq.—(again)	Shropshire
1447	William Tresham, esq.—(again)	Northamptonsh.
1449	John Say, esq.	Cambridgeshire
1450	John Popham, esq.	Hampshire
	but he excusing himself,	
——	William Tresham, esq.	Northamptonsh.
	(a third time) was chosen	
1451	Sir William Oldhall	Herefordshire
1453	Thomas Thorpe, esq.	Essex
——	Do. Do.	
	He was arrested in execution at	

Year.	Name.	Place returned for.
	the suit of the Duke of York, between two sessions of Parliament: wherein the opinions of the Judges being demanded by the Lords, the Judges answered, it belonged not unto them to judge of the liberties of Parliament: whereupon (without them) it was adjudged that he was not to have privilege, which was signified to the Commons by some of the Lords, and the King's pleasure for present choosing of a new speaker, was declared unto them; whereupon, they forthwith chose	
1453	Sir Thomas Charleton	Middlesex
1455	Sir John Wenlock	Bedfordshire
1459	William Tresham, esq. (a fourth time)	Northamptonsh.
1460	John Green, esq.	Essex
	King Edward IV.	
1460	Sir James Strangeways	Yorkshire
1462 / 1463	John Say, esq.	Hertfordshire
1472	William Allington, esq.	Cambridgeshire
1477	Do.	Lincolnshire
1782	John Wode, esq.	Sussex
	King Richard III.	
1483	William Catesby, esq.	Northamptonsh.

In these times the Lord Chancellor, speaker of the Lords' House (being for the most part a bishop) took a text out of the Scripture, or some other theme, and grounded his oration thereupon; therein declaring the cause of the summons of the Parliament, and in conclusion thereof, as the use now is, declared to the House of Commons the King's pleasure, that they should repair to their house and make choice of a speaker, not naming any day when they should present him; (as is now used;) and when the Commons had chosen their speaker, they

sent up some of their house to the Lords, to desire them to intimate to the King, that they had made their choice of a speaker, not naming whom, and to move the King to appoint a time when they should present him, and (commonly the King having been formerly spoken unto) the day agreed upon by the King was declared unto them. At the day appointed, the Commons presented their speaker, who prayed that he might be excused, but his excuse not being admitted, he maketh the common protestations touching his own mistakes, without any petitions in the behalf of the Commons, as is now usual.

King Henry VII.

Year.	Name.	Place returned for.
1485	Thomas Lovel, esq.	Northamptonsh. or Oxfordshire
1488	John Mordaunt, esq.	Bedfordshire
1489	Sir Thomas Fitz William	Yorkshire
1492	Richard Empsom, esq.	Northamptonsh.
1496	Sir Reginald Bray	Bedfordshire, or Northamptonsh.
	Robert Drury, esq.	Sussex
1497	Thomas Englefield, esq.	Berkshire
1504	Edmund Dudley, esq.	Staffordshire
	King Henry VIII.	
1509	Sir Thomas Englefield—(again)	Berkshire
1512	Sir Thomas Sheffield	Lincolnshire
1514	Sir Thomas Neville—(supposed)	Kent
1523 1524	Sir Thomas More	Middlesex, or Lancashire
1530	Sir Thomas Audley—(supposed)	Essex
	No speaker named in the records or chronicles, in the years 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, and 27, of the reign of Henry VIII.	
1537	Richard Rich, esq. afterwards made Lord Chancellor, and created a Baron; the first that	Essex

Year.	Name.	Place returned for.
	is recorded to have made a request for access to the King.	
1540	Sir Nicholas Hare	Norfolk
1542	Thomas Moyle, esq.	Kent
	and so continued all the rest of this reign: the first that is recorded to have made petition for freedom of speech;—the petition for privilege from arrest is of a later date; but it appears in the first of Henry IV. that Sir John Cheney, then speaker, made a general request, that the Commons might enjoy their ancient privileges and liberties, not naming any liberty in particular; and he is noted to be the first that is recorded to have made that request—but they all make the usual request or protestation touching themselves. In the latter end of the reign of King Henry VIII. there is no mention made in the Parliament Roll of the presenting of any speaker, nor in the time of Edward VI. or Queen Mary; but the memoirs of the speaker's names, of those later times, is only presented in the journals of both Houses.	
	King Edward VI.	
1547	Sir John Baker	Huntingdonshire
1553	James Dyer, esq.	Cambridgeshire
	Queen Mary I.	
1553	John Pollard, esq.	Oxfordshire
1554	Robert Brooke, esq.	London City
	Recorder of London, and member of Parliament for that city, was chosen	

Year.	Name.	Place returned for
	speaker: he is the first instance of any person, that was otherwise than a knight of a shire, being elected to this honourable office	
1555	Clement Higham, esq.	W. Looe, Cornw.
1556	John Pollard, esq.—(again)	Chippenham
1558	William Cordell, esq.	Essex
	Queen Elizabeth.	
1559	Sir Thomas Gargrave	Yorkshire
	learned in the laws, and one of the Queen's Council in the North; he first made the four requests, ever since, and now usually, made by most speakers, as appears by his oration—	
	First, for free access to the Queen	
	Secondly, liberty of speech	
	Thirdly, for privilege from arrests	
	Fourthly, that his mistakes might not prejudice the House	
1563	Thomas Williams, esq.	Exeter
	died in 1566, and	
	Richard Onslow, esq.	Steyning, Sus.
	was chosen in his room	
1571	Christopher Wrey, esq.	Ludgershall
1572	Robert Bell, esq.	Lynn Regis, Nor.
	made a Baron of the Exchequer in 1581, when	
	John Popham, esq.	Bristol
	was chosen in his place	
1585 / 1586	John Puckering, esq.	Bedford / Gatton
1589	Thomas Snagg, esq.	Bedford
1592	Edward Coke, esq.	Norfolk
1597	Christopher Yelverton, esq.	Northamptonsh.
1601	John Crook, esq.	London

Year.	Name.	Place returned for.
	King James I.	
1603	Edward Phillips, esq.	Somersetshire
1614	Randolph Crew, esq.	
	No records of this Parliament are to be found, but it is presumed he sat for Brackley, Northamptonshire	
1620	Thomas Richardson, esq.	St. Alban's, Herts
1623	Thomas Crew, esq.	Aylesbury
1625	Sir Thomas Crew—(again)	Gatton
1626	Sir Heneage Finch	London
1628	Sir John Finch	Canterbury
1640	John Glanville, esq.	Bristol
1641	William Lenthall, esq.	Woodstock, Ox.
	and continued till 1653.	
	Commonwealth.	
1653	Francis Rous, esq.	Devonshire
1654	William Lenthal, esq.—(again)	Oxfordshire
1656	Sir Thomas Widdrington	York
1659	Chaloner Chute, sen., esq.	Middlesex
	died in the same year	
	Sir Lislebone Long	Wells
	died in the same year	
	Thomas Bampfylde, esq.	Exeter
	King Charles II.	
1660	Sir Harbottle Grimestone	Colchester
1661	Sir Edward Turner, bart.	Hertford
1673	Sir Job Charlton, bart.	Ludlow, Salop
	but he desiring leave to resign on account of his health,	
——	Edward Seymour, esq.	Hindon, Wilts.
	was elected in his place. Resigned through indisposition	
1678	Sir Robert Sawyer	Wycombe
	Resigned through indisposition	
——	Sir Edward Seymour, bart.—(again)	

Year.	Name.	Place returned for.
1678	Sir Edward Seymour, bart. was again chosen in the next Parliament, convened March 6th; but the King not approving of him, and the Parliament being thereupon prorogued,	Devonshire
	Sergeant William Gregory was appointed	Weobly, Herts.
1679 / 1680	William Williams, esq.	Chester
1681	Again—March 21.	Oxford
	King James II.	
1685	Sir John Trevor	Denbigh
	King William III. & Queen Mary II.	
1689	Henry Powell, esq.	Windsor, Berks.
1690	Sir John Trevor—(again) On the 20th March, 1694, he was expelled the House and the chair, for taking a gratuity after the act for the benefit of Orphans had passed	Yarmouth (Hants
1694	Paul Foley, esq.	Hereford
	King William III.	
1695	Paul Foley, esq.—(again)	Hereford
1696	Paul Foley, esq.—(again)	Hereford
1698	Sir Thomas Lyttleton, bart.	Woodstock
1700 / 1701	Robert Harley, esq.	New Radnor
	Queen Anne.	
1702	Robert Harley, esq.—(again)	
1705	John Smith, esq.	Southampton
1708	Sir Richard Onslow, bart.	Surry
1710	William Bromley, esq.	Oxford Univers.
1713	Sir Thomas Hanmer, bart.	Suffolk
	King George I.	
1714 / 1722	The Honourable Spencer Compton	Sussex

Year.	Name.	Place returned for.
	King George II.	
1727, 1735, 1741, 1747, 1754	Arthur Onslow, esq.	Surry
	King George III.	
1761, 1768	Sir John Cust, bart.	Grantham, Lin.
	On account of indisposition he resigned, January 17th, 1770	
1770, 1774	Sir Fletcher Norton, knt.	Guildford
1780	Charles Wolfran Cornwall, esq.	Winchelsea, Sus.
1784	Do. Do.—(again)	Rye
1789	Jan. 5. William Wyndham Grenville, esq.	Buckinghamsh.
1789	May 8. Henry Addington, esq.	Devizes
1796	Do. Do.	
	Resigned December 10, 1801	
1801	Dec. 11. Sir John Mitford, knt.	Beeralston
	Resigned Feb. 8, 1802	
1802	Feb. 10. Charles Abbot, esq.	Helston
——	Nov. 16. Do. Do.	Woodstock
1806	Do. Do.	Do.
1807	Do. Do.	Oxford Univers.
1812	Do. Do.	Do.

No. VIII.

Abstract of the Laws

RELATING TO

THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS

OF

PARLIAMENT.

Issuing of Writs under a General Election.

When a new Parliament is to be summoned, a warrant, signed by the king, with the advice of his privy council, is directed to the lord chancellor, commanding him to issue under the great seal so many writs as have been usual and customary for the purpose of calling a new Parliament.

These writs are made out accordingly by the clerk of the crown.

When any new Parliament shall be called, there shall be *forty days* between the teste and return of the writs, and the writs shall issue with as much expedition as may be. And as well upon calling a new Parliament, as in the case of any vacancy, the writs shall be delivered to the *proper officer*, and *to no other person*.

And he shall endorse thereon *the day he received it*, and forthwith make out precepts to each borough, town corporate, port, or place within his jurisdiction, where any member is to be elected, and within *three days* after the receipt of the writ, shall, by himself or agent, deliver or cause to be delivered, the precept *to the proper officer* of every borough, town corporate, port, or place to whom the execution of any precept doth belong or ap-

pertain, and to no other person whatsoever, and *such officer** (upon the back of the same precept) shall endorse the day of the receipt thereof in the presence of the party from whom he received such precept, and shall forthwith cause public notice to be given of the time and place of election, and shall proceed to election thereupon within the space of *eight days* next after his receipt of the same precept, *and give four days notice* at least of the day appointed for the election.

Issuing of Writs on a Vacancy during a Sitting.

By a resolution of the House, 18th March, 1800-1, no writ to be issued *during sitting*, but *under warrant from the House*, first directed to the clerk of the crown.

Filling of Vacancies during a Recess.

The speaker is to issue his warrant during a recess, for making out writs for electing members to serve in the room of those

* In the case of Milbourn Port, in 1775, where there were different persons claiming to be returning officers at the *same time* under *different titles*, a question arose upon the *right of return*, and it was argued upon the construction of this act, that if the precept were to be delivered to the returning officer of any borough, who should go out of office, and another be appointed legally between that and *the time of the election*, such new officer should execute the precept.

That such new officer was in the eye of the law the same officer with the former, and the above statute only meant, in order to prevent litigation and delay at any election, to fix *who* was to execute the precept, when there should be different persons claiming to be returning officers at the same time under *different titles*.

That since the statute of *W. III.* there have been many instances, of precepts received by one returning officer, and executed by his successor, and the legality of such execution had never been disputed even where the election had been controverted. *Doug.* i. 113.

Mr. Douglas now (Lord Glenbervie) adds, in a note to this case, that he had heard of several instances where this happened at the last general election, particularly at Sudbury; yet, when the election was brought before a committee, though the misconduct of the officer who made the return was one ground of the petition, it was never contended, that he was not the person who ought to have had the execution of the precept. *Doug.* i. 139.

who shall die or become peers of Great Britain, upon receiving notice, by *certificate under the hands of two members*, of the death of such member, or that a writ of summons has been issued under the great seal. 24 *Geo. III. c.* 26. *s.* 2.

The speaker, upon receiving such certificate, shall forthwith cause notice to be inserted in the Gazette, and shall not issue his warrant until *fourteen days* after such insertion. *s.* 3.

But the speaker is not by the preceding clause authorised to issue his warrant for the election of a new member, unless *the return of the writ shall have been brought into the office of the clerk of the crown at least fifteen days* before the end of the last sitting of the House immediately preceding the time of application for such warrant, nor unless such application shall be made so long before the then next meeting of the House for the dispatch of business, as that the writ for the election may be issued *before the day* of such next meeting of the House, nor in case such application be made with respect to any seat vacated by either of the methods before mentioned, by any member against whose election a petition was depending at the time of the last prorogation of Parliament, or adjournment of the House. *s.* 4.

Warrants to elect new Members on the Speaker's Absence or Death.

To guard against inconvenience or delay occurring *by the death or absence of the speaker*, it is provided, that every speaker of the House of Commons shall, within a convenient time after having been in office, at the beginning of every Parliament, by a written instrument under his hand and seal, nominate and appoint a certain number of persons, *not more than seven, nor less than three* members of the House, authorising them, or any one of them, to execute the powers given to the speaker for issuing such warrants, subject nevertheless to such regulations and exceptions above-mentioned:—such instrument of appointment to remain in full force, notwithstanding the death or absence of the speaker, until the dissolution of that Parliament in which it shall have been made. 24 *Geo. III. c.* 26. *s.* 5.

When such number as above-appointed shall be reduced to less than three, the speaker is to make a new appointment in the manner before directed. *s.* 6.

Every such appointment shall be entered in the Journals of

the House, and be once published in the London Gazette: the instrument of appointment shall be preserved by the clerk of the House of Commons, and a duplicate filed at the office of the clerk of the crown in chancery. *s.* 7.

No person so appointed shall be authorised to act, unless there be no speaker of the House, or such speaker be absent, nor any longer than such persons shall be members of the House. *s.* 8.

The publisher of the Gazette shall give receipts for notices, specifying the day and hour when the same were received; and in case of more than one notice for the same election, the notice first received shall only be inserted. 24 *Geo. III. c.* 26. *s.* 9.

FREEDOM OF ELECTIONS.

Because elections ought to be free, the king commandeth upon great forfeiture, that no man by force of arms, nor by malice, or menacing, shall disturb any to make free election. 31 *E. I. c.* 5.

By the declaration of rights, "All elections of members of Parliament ought to be free." 1 *W. & M. sess.* 2. *c.* 2.

"By the ancient common law of the land all elections ought to be free;" and forasmuch as the freedom of elections of members to serve in Parliament is of the utmost consequence to the preservation of the rights and liberties of this kingdom, and infringement of that freedom by violence voids the election." 8 *G. II. c.* 30. *s.* 1.

As often as there shall be an election of any Scots peer or members to serve in Parliament, the secretary at war shall send proper orders in writing for the *removing of soldiers* to the distance of *two or more miles* from the place of election, who shall not make any nearer approach to such place, until one day, at least, after the poll shall be ended, and the poll-books closed. Any secretary at war, or person officiating as such, violating this clause, to be discharged from office, and rendered incapable of holding any office under government. 8 *G. II. s.* 1.

This act not to extend to *Westminster* or *Southwark*, in respect of *the guards of his majesty* or any place where the royal family shall happen to be or reside, nor to any castle or fortified place, where any garrison is usually kept, in respect of such

number of soldiers only whereof such garrison is composed. 8 *G. II. s.* 3.

Nor to any officer having a right to vote at such election. *s.* 4.

The secretary at war shall not be liable to such forfeitures or incapacity for not sending such orders for the removal of soldiers, in case of a vacancy, unless *notice of the writ* be given by the clerk of the crown. *s.* 5.

With a view of still further preserving the freedom of elections, the House of Commons have passed the following resolutions:

By a resolution of the House, (passed at the commencement of every session,) "It is a high infringement of the liberties and privileges of the Commons for any *lord of Parliament*, or *any lord lieutenant of any county*, to concern himself in the election of members of Parliament."

By another resolution, 17 Jour. 507, "It is highly criminal in any *minister* or *servant under the crown*, *directly* or *indirectly* to use *the powers of office*, in the election of representatives to serve in Parliament; and an attempt of such influence will at all times be resented by this House, as aimed at its own honour, dignity, and independence, as an infringement of the dearest rights of every subject throughout the empire, and tending to sap the basis of this free and happy constitution."

By another resolution also, 9 Jour. 191, "The sending of warrants, or letters in the nature of warrants or letters to *high constables*, or constables or other officers, to be communicated to freeholders or other electors, when a knight of the shire or other member is to be chosen to serve in Parliament, or threatening the electors, is unparliamentary, and a violation of the right of election."

Officers of Excise and Customs.

No *collector*, *supervisor*, *guager*, or other officer or person whatsoever, concerned or employed in the *charging*, *collecting*, *levying*, *or managing the duties of excise*, or any branch or part thereof, shall, by word, message, or writing, or in any other manner whatsoever, endeavour to persuade any elector to give, or dissuade any elector from giving his vote for the choice of any member to serve in Parliament, under penalty of 100*l.* and incapacity of serving in any office of trust or profit. 5 *W. & M. c.* 20. *s.* 8.

Officers of the Post Office; officers or persons concerned in collecting or managing any of the duties upon soap, paper, candles, hides, skins, tanned vellum, &c., are prohibited from interfering at elections, under the penalties and disabilities of the preceding act. 12 & 13 *W. III. c.* 10. *s.* 91. 9 *Anne, c.* 11. *s.* 44. 18 *Anne, c.* 19. *s.* 102.

ELECTIONS FOR COUNTIES.

Issuing Precepts.

EVERY sheriff, after receipt of the writ, shall issue a precept under his seal to every mayor and bailiff of the cities and boroughs within his county, reciting the writ, and commanding them to choose by citizens or burgesses, as the case may be, for any city or borough, to come to Parliament. 23 *H. VI. c.* 14.

The writs shall be delivered *to the proper officers only*, and the returning officer is to indorse on the writ the day he received it, and make out the precepts, and *within three days*, [or in the Cinque-Ports, *six days*,] after the receipt of the writ of election, shall cause *such precepts to be delivered to the officer*, to whom the execution of such writ shall appertain. 7 & 8 *W. III. c.* 25. *s.* 14.

No sheriffs or other officers, whose duty it is to execute such writs of election, are to take any fee or gratuity whatsoever for making out receipt, delivery, return, or execution of any such writ or precept. *s.* 2.

The county court for the election shall be held by the sheriff at *the most public and usual place of election*,* where the same

* In the case of Pembrokeshire, in 1770, on a petition of Hugh Owen, esq. the election (which had been at Haverfordwest) was on the ground of the partiality of the sheriff declared to be void. Upon this a new election took place, which was held at Pembroke, although the most usual place was Haverfordwest.

Mr. Owen being now returned, some of the freeholders in the opposite interest petitioned, on the ground that *the election had been held at a wrong place, contrary to the statute.* But the ordinary sheriff's court having been held at Pembroke, previous to the receipt of the writ by the sheriff, and the writ having been received *more than six days*

has most usually been held *for* forty years last past, and shall proceed to election, unless it shall fall out *in six days* after the receipt of the writ, or upon the same day, and then shall adjourn the county court to some convenient day, giving *ten days* notice of the time and place of election. 7 and 8 *W. III. c.* 25. *s.* 3.

In consequence of sheriffs having frequently made long adjournments of the county court to delay the election of knights of the shire, no sheriff shall adjourn such court for longer than *sixteen days.* 6 *G. II. c.* 8. *s.* 10.

Within *two days* after receipt of the writ, proclamation shall be made of the election, which must begin within the *tenth* and *sixteenth days* of the proclamation. 25 *G. III. c.* 84. *s.* 4.

Erecting Booths, appointing of Clerks, &c.

If any of the candidates shall, *three days* at least before any election, give *notice in writing* to the returning officer to provide proper places for administering the *oaths, declarations,* and *affirmations,* viz. the oaths of allegiance, supremacy, &c. to the electors, such proper places shall be provided by the returning officers; the expenses to be paid by the candidates in equal proportions. 34 *G. III. c.* 73. *s.* 6.

At every such election in England and Wales, the sheriffs, &c. shall make, *at the expense of the candidates,** such number of convenient booths, or places for taking the poll, as the candidates, or any of them, shall, *three days at least* before the commencement of the poll, desire, so as the same do not exceed the number of rapes, &c. in the county, and *not exceeding fifteen;* and shall affix *on the most public part* of each of the said booths, *the name or names* of the rape, &c. or rapes, &c. for which such booth is allotted; and shall appoint a proper clerk, or clerks, at each of the said booths, to take the poll (at the expense of the

---

before the day when the court was fixed to be held, it was contended, that under those circumstances the sheriff was bound by another provision of the same statute (see above) to hold the election at that court, and therefore could not comply with the other requisition of the statute; the sitting member, Mr. Owen, was in consequence declared duly elected. *Doug.* vol. ii. p. 216.

* This point was attempted, but unsuccessfully, to be contested by Sir Francis Burdett at his last election for Westminster.

candidates, not exceeding one guinea per day each clerk;) and the sheriff, &c. shall also make out a list for each of the said booths, of all the towns, &c. lying wholly or in part in the rape or rapes, &c. for which such booth is allotted; and shall, upon request, deliver a true copy thereof to any of the candidates, or their agents, taking for each copy *two shillings*. 18 *G. II. c.* 18. *s.* 7.

No sheriff, &c. shall admit any person to vote for any lands, &c. sworn to be lying at some parish or place, &c. *not mentioned in the list* so made out for such booth, &c. unless such lands, &c. lie, or be in some town or place not mentioned in any of the lists.

The sheriff, &c. shall allow a cheque book for every poll book for each candidate, to be kept by their inspectors at every place where the poll is carried on.

PROCEEDINGS AT ELECTIONS.

Elections for Counties.

UPON the day appointed for election, the sheriff is directed to proceed in his full county, betwixt the hours of eight in the morning and eleven before noon, without collusion, under penalty of 100*l.* to the king, and another 100*l.* to the informer.

Such suit must, however, be commenced *within three months* after the opening of the Parliament. 23 *Hen. VI. c.* 14.

Commencement of Proceedings.

The proceedings commence by proclaiming silence; the next thing is the reading of the writ of summons: immediately after which, the sheriff is to read, or cause to be read, the whole of the Act of 2 *Geo. II. c.* 24. viz. the Act for preventing Bribery and Corruption, by the third section of which the sheriff is required immediately after reading the writ to take an oath, the substance of which is, that he hath not directly or indirectly received any reward, gratuity, &c. or promise of any such, for making any return at the election, and that he will return such persons as shall, to the best of his judgment, appear to have a legal majority of votes. 2 *G. II. c.* 24.

Oaths, by whom to be administered.

The preceding oaths are to be administered by any justice or justices for the county, &c. where such election shall be made; or, in their absence, by any *three of the electors*; and such oaths, when so taken, shall be entered on the records of the sessions of such county, city, or borough.

The oaths above-mentioned having been duly taken, either before the magistrates or the three electors, as the case may be, the electors proceed to elect the candidates, which is decided by the three following modes, viz. 1. BY THE VIEW.—2. BY THE POLL.—3. BY THE SCRUTINY.

Election by the View.

The determination in this case is either by voices, shew of hands, or collecting the friends of the respective candidates into separate bodies, or in such other modes as have been customary: the most usual method, however, is by the voices of the electors vociferating the names of their favourite candidates.

Where such election is not determined by the view, but a poll shall be demanded, the sheriff, under-sheriff, or such others as shall be by him deputed, shall forthwith there proceed to take the poll in some public place appointed for that purpose. *7 and 8 W. III. c.* 25. *s.* 3.

PROCEEDINGS PREVIOUS TO THE POLL.

Administration of Oaths.

To prevent the delays arising from the time and place where the oaths of allegiance, supremacy, &c. were usually administered to the electors, the following enactments have been made, viz.

The returning officer shall, upon request of the candidates, appoint persons to administer the oaths of allegiance, supremacy, and declaration of fidelity, oath of abjuration, and declaration or affirmation of the effect thereof now required, who shall have full power to adminsister such oaths, and who shall themselves take oath according to the form prescribed in the act 34 *G. III. c.* 73. *s.* 3.

Electors are to apply to such persons so appointed, who shall, previous to their voting, administer the oaths of allegiance, supremacy, &c. and give certificates thereof, such certificates to contain the *name, addition, and place of abode* of the person to whom the same shall be so given; the oath or affirmation, if a quaker, to be in the form prescribed by the act. [This form is simply, that the person, viz. name, residence, and addition, *hath taken the oath:* (or, being a quaker,) *hath made and subscribed the declaration of fidelity, and affirmed the effect of the oath of abjuration*;] and every such person, upon producing his certificate to the returning officers, shall be permitted to poll. 34 *G. III. c.* 73. *s.* 2.

Persons offering to vote, without producing certificate, shall immediately withdraw and take the said oaths before they shall be permitted to be sworn. *s.* 3.

Where the number originally appointed to administer such oaths shall be insufficient, more may be appointed. *s.* 4.

Returning officers are to appoint places for taking the above oaths, &c. where free access may be had, without interrupting the poll, and provide a sufficient number of *printed* forms, with blanks to be filled up, and printed certificates, and deliver the same to each elector, taking and signing the same. 34 *G. III. c.* 73. *s.* 5.

If any of the candidates, three days at least before any such election, shall give notice in writing to such returning officers, to provide proper places for administering such oaths, &c. such places are to be provided before the day of election. *s.* 6.

The expenses of the above to be defrayed by the candidates.

Commencement of the Poll.

Every poll within England, Wales, and Berwick-upon-Tweed, shall commence *on the day* upon which it shall be demanded, or upon the next day at farthest, (unless such day shall be on Sunday, and then on the day after,) and shall be duly and regularly proceeded in from day to day, (Sundays excepted;) and the same shall be finally closed, at or before the hour of three in the afternoon of the same day. 25 *G. III. s.* 1.

Time of keeping open the Poll.

The said poll, unless prevented by unavoidable accident, shall be kept open for *seven hours* in each day, *between eight in the morning and eight at night*, (with the exception, however, of Winchester, where, by the 16th section of this act, when the poll closes, which must be within the fifteen days, the sheriff of Southampton may adjourn the poll to Newport, in the Isle of Wight, if required, and there commence in four days, and not continue longer than three days. 25 *G. III. c.* 84. *s.* 3, 16.

Adjournment of the Poll.

The sheriff, or under-sheriff, shall not adjourn the place of polling, unless by the consent of the candidates, (unless, as before stated, from Winchester to the Isle of Wight.) 7 *and* 8 *W. III. c.* 25. *s.* 5, 10.

Regulation of Poll Clerks.

The sheriff, or his deputy, shall appoint such number of clerks as he shall deem convenient for taking the said poll, who shall take such poll in the presence of the said sheriff, and shall be previously sworn truly and indifferently to take the poll and set down the name of each freeholder, and for whom he polls; and the sheriff shall also appoint such persons as shall be nominated to him by each candidate to be inspector of every clerk, who shall be appointed to take the poll. 7 *and* 8 *W. III. c.* 25. *s.* 3.

Such sheriff, or deputy, shall allow a cheque book for every poll book for each candidate, to be kept by their respective inspectors, at every place where the poll for such election shall be taken or carried on. 18 *G. II. c.* 18. *s.* 9.

By an act for more effectually preventing fraudulent conveyances, in order to multiply votes for knights of the shire, not only *the place of the elector's freehold* shall be entered, but also the *place of his abode*, as he shall declare the same at the time of giving his vote, and shall enter *jurat* against the name, if sworn, or if a quaker, *affirmed*.

The mode of voting at each booth is to be regulated by the list, and freeholders shall not vote for any lands or tenements lying in places not mentioned therein. 18 *G. II. c.* 18. *s.* 8.

Freeholder's Oath.

Before any freeholder shall be permitted to poll, he shall, if required, take the following oath; or if a quaker make the following affirmation, (see the form of oath in the act 18 *G. II. c.* 18. *s.* 5.)

Every voter also, previous to giving his vote, shall, if required, take also the *bribery oath* (or affirmation.) This oath is in substance, that the party hath received neither directly nor indirectly any reward, emolument, or promise to that effect. 2 *G. II. c.* 24. *s.* 13.

The oath or affirmation required by 2. *G. II.* (The Bribery Act) to be taken by every person claiming a right to vote, shall be taken *at the poll immediately before he is admitted to poll at such election.* 42 *G. III. c.* 62.

By 43 *G. III. c.* 74. So much of the preceding act as respects the oath required by 2 *G. II.* is repealed, and the said oath shall be taken by every person before he is admitted to poll, in manner prescribed by 2 *G. II.* if demanded by either of the candidates, or any two of the electors.

But by a more recent act, which, from its importance, deserves a minuter detail, (commonly called Mr. Curwen's Act,) it was enacted as follows:

By the 49 *G. III. c.* 118, for preventing the obtaining of seats in Parliament by corrupt practices, after reciting that the promise of any gift, office, &c. to procure the return of any member to serve in Parliament, if not given *to the use of some person having a right to act as returning officer*, or to vote at such election, was not bribery within the meaning of the 2 *G. II. c.* 24; but that such gifts or promises were contrary to the ancient usage, right, and freedom of elections, and contrary to the law and constitution of this realm, enacts as follows: viz. That if any person shall, either by himself or by any other person or persons for or on his behalf, give or cause to be given, directly or indirectly, or promise or agree to give any sum of money, gift, or reward, to any person or persons, upon any engagement, contract, or agreement, that such person or persons to whom, to whose use, or on whose behalf such gift or promise shall be made, shall, by himself, or by any other person or persons whatsoever at his solicitation, request, or command, procure or endeavour to procure the return of any person to serve in Parliament for any county,

stewartry, city, town, borough, cinque-port, or place, every person so having given or promised to give, if not returned himself to Parliament for such county, stewartry, city, town, borough, cinque-port, or place, shall for every such gift or promise forfeit the sum of *one thousand pounds*, to be recovered in such manner as is hereinafter provided, with respect to the sum of *five hundred pounds;* and every such person so returned, and so having given or so having promised to give, or knowing of and consenting to such gifts or promises, upon any such engagement, contract, or agreement, shall be and is hereby declared and enacted to be disabled and incapacitated to serve in that Parliament for such county, stewartry, city, town, borough, cinque-port, or place, and that such person shall be deemed and taken to be no member of Parliament, and enacted to be, to all intents, constructions, and purposes, as if he had never been returned or elected a member in Parliament; and any person or persons who shall receive or accept of, by himself, or by any other person or persons in trust for or to his use or on his behalf any such sum of money, gift, or reward, or any such promise upon any such engagement, contract, or agreement, shall forfeit to his majesty the value and amount of such sum of money, gift, or reward, over and above the sum of *five hundred pounds*, which said sum of *five hundred pounds* he shall forfeit to any person who shall sue for the same, to be recovered in any of his majesty's courts of record at Westminster, if the offence be committed in England and Wales; Dublin, if the offence be committed in Ireland; and if the offence be committed in Scotland, by summary action or complaint before the court of session, or by prosecution before the court of justiciary.

Provided always, that *nothing in this act contained shall extend*, or be construed to extend, *to any money paid or agreed to be paid to or by any person, for any legal expense, bonâ fide incurred at or concerning any election.* s. 2.

If any person shall by himself, or by any other person for or on his behalf, give or procure to be given, or promise to give or procure to be given, any office, place, or appointment, to any person or persons whatsoever, upon any *express contract or agreement* that such person or persons, to whom, or to whose use or on whose behalf such gift or promise shall be made, shall by himself, or by any other person or persons at his solicitation,

request, or command, procure or endeavour to procure the return of any person to serve in Parliament for any county, stewartry, city, town, borough, cinque-port, or place, such person so returned, and so having given or procured to be given, or so having promised to give or procure to be given, or knowing of and consenting to such gift or promise upon any such express contract or agreement, shall be and is hereby declared and enacted to be disabled and incapacitated to serve in Parliament for such county, city, town, borough, cinque-port, or place, and that such person shall be deemed and taken to be no member of Parliament, to all intents, constructions, and purposes, as if he had never been returned or elected; and any person who shall receive, or accept of, by himself, or by any other person or persons in trust for or to the use or on the behalf of such persons, any such office, place, or employment, upon such *express contract or agreement*, shall forfeit such office, place, or employment, and be incapacitated for holding the same, and shall forfeit the sum of *five hundred pounds*, which said sum of *five hundred pounds* shall be recovered as is hereinbefore enacted; and any person *holding any office under his majesty*, who shall give such office, appointment, or place, upon any such *express contract or agreement*, that the person to whom or for whose use such office, appointment, or place, shall have been given, or shall so procure or endeavour to procure the return of any person to serve in Parliament, shall forfeit the sum of *one thousand pounds*, to be recovered in such manner as is hereinbefore provided.

By *sec.* 4, actions are to be brought and proceedings to be actually commenced *within two years* after offence committed.

No person refusing to take the oaths directed by 1 *W.* and *M. st.* 1. *c.* 8. (the oaths of allegiance and fidelity;) or being a quaker, refusing to subscribe the declaration of fidelity required by 1 *W. and M. st.* 1. *c.* 18.) nor the oath of abjuration directed by the act *st. W. and M. st.* 1. *c.* 18. shall be admitted to vote for the election of any member of Parliament.

Of a Scrutiny.

The returning officer shall immediately, or on the day next after the final close of the poll, truly, fairly, and publicly make a return of such persons who have a majority of votes, unless

such returning officer, upon a scrutiny being demanded by any candidate, or *any two or more electors*, shall *deem it necessary* to grant the same, in which case the objections on the votes given for the different candidates shall be decided alternately. 25 *G. III.* c. 84. *s.* 2.

The returning officer shall forthwith deliver to every person demanding the same, a copy of the poll taken at such election, paying only a reasonable charge for writing the same, under a penalty of 500*l.* to the party aggrieved. 7 *and* 8 *W. III. c.* 25. *s.* 6.

Poll books shall be delivered upon oath to the clerk of the peace, and kept among the records of the sessions. 10 *Anne, c.* 23. *s.* 5.

OF THE RETURN.

THE names of the persons chosen shall be written on an indenture under the seals of those by whom they are chosen, and tacked to the writ, which shall be deemed the sheriff's return of such writ. 7 *Hen. IV. c.* 15.

Returns shall be by the indentures *sealed* between the sheriff and the electors. 7 *Hen.* 7. *c.* 7.

Time allowed for making Returns.

In order to prevent abuses in returning writs of summons, the returning officer shall, *within fourteen days next* following, make return to the clerk of the crown in chancery, paying the ancient fees, viz. four shillings for every knight of the shire, and two shillings for every citizen, burgess, or baron of the cinque-ports. 10 *and* 11 *W. III. c.* 7.

Returns shall be made truly, fairly, and publicly at the final close of the poll or the day after, unless a scrutiny be demanded. The officer having the return of the writ shall cause the returns *to be filed* before the writ is returnable, and other returning officers are to make their returns in *six days.*

PENALTIES FOR FALSE RETURNS.

SHERIFFS neglecting or omitting to make returns shall be amerced. 5 *Rich. II. st.* 2. *c.* 4.

If found on inquest that the sheriff hath made *false returns*

contrary to 7 *Hen. IV.* he shall forfeit 100*l.* and the knights so falsely returned shall lose their wages, four shillings per day for each knight of the shire, and two shillings per day for each burgess, citizen, &c. 11 *Hen. IV.* c. 1.

But knights chosen for the Parliament, and the sheriffs of counties, may have their traverse of an offence found against them. 6 *Hen. VI.* c. 4.

Justices of assize are to enquire of the returning knights to Parliament, and if the inquest be found, and the sheriff be duly attainted, he shall forfeit 100*l.* and one year's imprisonment, without bail or mainprize, and the knights by him so unduly returned shall lose their wages. 8 *Hen. VI.* c. 7.

Sheriffs making undue returns shall incur the above penalty, and forfeit moreover to every person so chosen and not duly returned, or to any other person suing for the same, 100*l.* with costs, to be recovered by action of debt. 23 *Hen. VI.* c. 14.

Sheriffs not making returns, shall forfeit 500*l.* 10 *and* 11 *W. III.* c. 7.

Returning officers may be sued for neglecting to return persons duly elected, who shall recover damages with full costs; but actions shall be commenced within *one year* after the offence, or *six months* after conclusion of proceedings in the House. 25 *G. III.* c. 84. *s.* 14.

False returns are prohibited, and any returns *contrary to the last decision of the House of Commons*, shall be deemed false returns. Such votes to be deemed legal, which have been so declared by *the last determination* of the House of Commons, which to all intents and purposes shall be deemed final. 7 *&* 8 *W. III.* c. 7. *s.* 2, 3. 2 *G. II.* c. 24. *s.* 4.

The 28 of *G. III.* repeals so much of the above act as declares *the last determination* of the House on the right of voting to be final, and gives a power to future committees to decide the same by special resolutions, which if not appealed against in 12 calendar months to be final.

Parties aggrieved by false or double returns, may sue in any court at Westminster, and shall recover double damages.

All contracts made to procure false returns shall be void, and the parties shall be subject to a penalty of 300*l.*; one third to the king, another third to the poor, and one third to the informer. *s.* 4.

The clerk of the crown to enter every return and amendment in a book to be kept for that purpose. All persons shall have access to the book, which, or a copy thereof, may be given in evidence. Such clerk not entering returns *in six days after receipt*, making any alterations, or omitting to perform his duty, shall forfeit 500*l.*, and lose his office. *s.* 5.

By section 6th of this act the information shall be within *two years.*

Of amending Returns.

Returns were formerly amended by the returning officers; but by a resolution, April 12, 1690, 10th Jour., 377 they can only be amended *by the House*, for which purpose, when necessary, the clerk of the crown attends with his book, and amends it in the house, by erasing the names, or in case of a double return, taking the void one off the file, and letting the other remain.

ELECTIONS FOR CITIES, TOWNS, BOROUGHS, AND CINQUE-PORTS.

Duty of returning Officers on Receipt of Writ or Precept.

SHERIFFS of cities and towns, being counties of themselves, and having a right to elect members of Parliament by virtue of a writ without any precept, are to proceed to election *within three days, giving three days notice.* 19 *G. II. c.* 28. *s.* 7.

Returning officers of boroughs, &c. are to indorse *the day of the receipt of the precept*, and give *four days* notice* at the usual place, within the hours of *eight in the forenoon*, and *four in the afternoon*, from the 25th of October to the 25th of March inclusive, and within the hours of *eight in the forenoon*, and *six in the afternoon*, from the 25th of March to the 25th of October inclusive: Notices otherwise published to be deemed invalid. 7 & 8 *W. III. c.* 25. *s.* 1. & 33 *G. III. c.* 64.

---

* This notice must be *four days, exclusive* of the day when given; thus, it was determined in the case of Seaford, 1785, that notice on the 27th for the 30th was not good notice, and the election void.

Providing places for administering the oaths of allegiance, &c. and proceedings at the elections, viz. taking the poll, appointing poll clerks, administering oaths, &c. are the same as those for counties. See 34 *G. III. c.* 73. *s.* 6. Elections for Counties.

ELECTORS IN GENERAL.

Of Persons disqualified, Votes thrown away, &c.

Minors. 7 and 8 *W. III. c.* 3. *s.* 25.

Women; aliens born. *Resol. H. C.* 1698.

Persons deaf, dumb, and blind; lunatics; peers; papists; outlaws; persons excommunicated; felony; persons convicted of bribery, perjury, or subornation of perjury. 2 *G. II. c.* 24. *s.* 7.

Copyholders under penalty of 50*l.* 31. *G. III. c.* 14.

Persons receiving alms, almsmen, charities, in some cases, in others not.

Dissenting ministers are also not entitled to vote; but schoolmasters may in particular cases.

Commissioners or officers employed in collecting or managing the duties of excise or customs, under penalty of their offices becoming void, incapability of executing any office of trust under his Majesty, and forfeiture of 100*l.* 22 *G. III. c.* 41. *s.* 1.

But by the four following sections, this act shall not extend to commissioners of the land tax or persons acting under them; nor to offices held by letters-patent for any estate of inheritance; and prosecutions shall be commenced within *twelve months* after forfeiture incurred.

Officers of excise, distributors or sub-distributors of stamps, collectors of duties on houses and windows, or persons employed in receiving them; postmasters, postmasters general, or their deputies, or any persons employed by them in receiving, collecting, or managing the revenue of the Post Office, are disqualified.

ELECTORS FOR COUNTIES.

Qualifications.

KNIGHTS of shires shall be chosen of every county in England by people *dwelling and resident in the same counties,** whereof every one of them shall have *free land*, or tenement of the value of 40*s.* by the year at least, above all charges. 8 *H. VI. c.* 7.

Every man shall have *freehold* to the value of 40*s. by the year* at the least, *above all charges, within the same county*, where every such chooser will meddle of any such election. 10 *H. VI. c.* 2.

No persons shall be allowed to vote by reason of any trust estate or mortgage, unless such trustee or mortgagee be in actual possession or receipt of the rents and profits of the same estate; but the mortgagor or *cestui-que* trust shall vote for such estate. 7 & 8 *W. III. c.* 25. *s.* 7.

Customary Freehold.

Corporations sole have a right to vote for lands, which they hold in their *corporate capacity*, i. e. to them and their successors; as have also corporations aggregate, as the mayor and commonalty of a city, the heads and fellows of a college, the dean and chapter of a cathedral church; but the *individual members* of these corporations are not allowed to vote.

Mode of ascertaining the Value of the Estate.

No person to vote for a knight of the shire, in right of lands which have not been charged to public taxes, church rates, and parish dues, &c. and for which such person has not received the rents for *one year before*, unless such lands came to him by descent. 10 *Anne, c.* 23. *s.* 2.

---

* This part of the act requiring residence, is repealed by 14 *G. III. c.* 58.

Persons voting contrary to this act liable to a penalty of 40*l.*

But persons voting in respect of any rents, &c. or chambers in inns of court, in regard of their not being charged to public taxes, &c., provided that they have been assessed as other messuages of 40*s.* per annum in the same parish, are, by the fifth section, exempted from the operation of this act. 12 *Anne, st.* 1. *s.* 5.

Of fraudulent and occasional Votes.

All conveyances of any messuages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments, in order to multiply voices, or to *split and divide* the interest in any houses or lands among several persons, to enable them to vote at elections of members to serve in Parliament, are hereby declared void and of none effect, and that no more than *one single voice* shall be admitted to one and the same house and tenement. 7 and 8 *W. III.* c. 25. *s.* 7.

The preceding statute of William being found ineffectual to remedy the scandalous and fraudulent practices used to create and multiply votes, it was enacted as follows:

All conveyances *fraudulently made* to qualify any person to vote, subject to *conditions to defeat the same*, shall be discharged of such condition, and be holden and enjoyed by every such person to whom such conveyance shall be made, freely and absolutely acquitted from all trusts, conditions, &c. and all bonds given for defeating such estate, shall be void, and all persons making such conveyances, or voting in favour thereof, shall be void. 10 *Anne*, c. 23. *s.* 1.

No person shall vote in any such (county) election, for any freehold, without having been in the *actual possession*, or in the receipt of the rents and profits thereof, for his own use, *above twelve calendar months*, unless the same came to him within the time aforesaid by descent, marriage, marriage settlement, devise, promotion to any benefice in a church, or by promotion to an office; or shall vote in consequence of any fraudulent grant; or who shall vote *more than once* at the same election. 18 *G. II.* c. 18.

Voting contrary to this act incurs a penalty of 40*l.*

No freeholder shall be permitted to vote at county elections, in right of any tenements, which have not been charged or as-

sessed towards the land tax within *six calendar months next* before such election. 20 *G. III. c.* 17. *s.* 2.

This act contains an exception for voting in right of inns of court, chancery, or messuages, or seats belonging to offices, not usually charged to the land tax; and enacts, that all duplicates of the land tax assessments, shall be kept among the records of the session, to be inspected, or copies taken by any person requiring the same. *s.* 7.

The above act not to extend to persons entitled to such lands or tenements by descent, marriage, marriage settlements, devise, promotion to any benefice in a church, or promotion to an office *within twelve calendar months* before such election.

Commissioners of the land tax are to deliver to assessors a *printed form* of an assessment, who are to make their assessments according thereto, and a duplicate of such assessments shall be stuck up on the door of the parish church.

Qualified persons, whose names are omitted in assessments, may appeal to the commissioners, who are to amend their assessments where defective, and an amended duplicate to be returned to the assessors, and delivered to the clerk of the peace at the next quarter sessions. 20 *G. III. c.* 17. *s.* 3.

Assessors and chief constables altering or neglecting to deliver duplicates as above directed, shall forfeit 5*l.* for each offence. *s.* 4.

If clerks of the peace shall not receive all the duplicates before the end of Michaelmas session yearly, the court shall immediately fine the chief constable making default, and on failure of payment, fines may be levied by distress. *s.* 5.

In case chief constables make oath that assessors neglected to deliver said duplicates to them, then the fines shall be levied on the said assessors, except they deliver the duplicates, &c. within ten days after notice.

But if assessors within the said time shall produce to the clerk of the peace the chief constable's receipt, then the fine shall be levied on the said constables. 20 *G. III. c.* 17. *s.* 7.

All fines to be paid to the treasurer of the county. *s.* 8.

When assessments are not made and returned to the clerk of the peace, justices may order them to be made and returned forthwith. *s.* 9.

Persons aggrieved may apply to the quarter sessions, giving ten days notice, and justices may award costs. *s.* 10.

Persons whose names on appeal shall appear to have been improperly left out of any assessment shall be *deemed to have been rated* therein. *s.* 11.

Duplicates may be inspected, and the clerk of the peace is to deliver *signed copies of the duplicate* on demand, and being paid 6*d.* for every three hundred words, such duplicates to be deemed *legal evidence.* *s.* 13.

The clerk of the peace or his deputy to attend at every election of a knight of the shire with original duplicate, at the request of any candidate; such candidate to pay him 2*l.* 2*s.* for every day's attendance, and 1*s.* 6*d.* per mile travelling charges. 20 *G. III. c.* 17. *s.* 14.

After issuing any writ for election of a county member, the clerk of the peace shall attend *gratis* from nine to three each day, where the records of the county are usually kept, to make copies of duplicates, &c. *s.* 15.

Clerks of the peace making default in any of the above clauses shall forfeit 500*l.* to the party aggrieved. Action to be brought within *two months.* *s.* 16.

By the 17th, 18th, and 19th clauses of this act, final judgment upon any verdict against a clerk of the peace shall be deemed a sufficient conviction. Penalties to be recovered by action of debt, and prosecutions to be commenced within twelve calendar months.

In consequence of some jarring decisions, with respect to whether it was necessary *that the name of the owner* should appear upon the rate, the following act was passed:

Act 30 *G. III. c.* 35. *s.* 1, 2.

This act, after reciting the preceding act, viz. 20 *G. III. c.* 17. enacts as follows, Nothing in the said acts contained shall be construed to prevent any person from voting in respect of any tenements charged for *six calendar months* next before such election, or entitled by descent, marriage, marriage-settlement, devise, promotion to church benefice or office, although *the name of the tenant* or tenants actually occupying such tenements, or the name of the person so claiming to vote, or that of the person by whom such person so claiming to vote derives his title, or of the

predecessor of the person so claiming to vote, shall *not be inserted* in the assessment, according to the form of the assessment annexed to the 20 *G. III. c.* 17.*

ANNUITIES.

To prevent *fraudulent and occasional votes*, in so far as relates to *annuity or rent-charge*, no person may vote in elections of knights of the shire, or members for cities and towns, which are counties of themselves, in right of any annuity or rent-charge, granted before June, 1763, unless *a certificate* be entered with the clerk of the peace or other proper officer, *twelve months before any such election begin*:† and in like manner with respect to such qualifications as shall come by descent, marriage, devise, presentation or promotion. 3 *G. III. c.* 24. *s.* 1.

Nor may any person vote in any election in respect of any annuity or rent-charge granted after June 1, 1763, unless a memorial of the grant be duly attested and registered as aforesaid.‡ 3 *G. III. c.* 24. *s.* 3.

Nor may any one vote in right of any *assignment of any annuity* or rent-charge made before 1763, unless a *certificate of the original annuity* be entered as aforesaid; and if the assignment be made after the said 1st day of June, then *a memorial* thereof, and of the grant, *to be attested and registered*, as is directed in cases of original grants. 20 *G. III. c.* 24. *s.* 4.

Books to be kept by the proper officers for entering such certificates and memorials, who shall be allowed 1*s.* and no more for the entry of every certificate, and 2*s.* for the entry of every memorial, and for search of every certificate or memorial, 1*s.*; and

---

* It has been held that a rector may vote in respect of tythes let to the parishioners, although he is not assessed for the same.

† This act also prescribes the oath to be taken: the substance of which is, that the voter, in respect of such annuity, is really and *bonâ fide* seized of the same to his own use, and that the persons under whom he claims were seized of the same annuity or rent-charge before June 1, 1763.

‡ This clause also prescribes the oaths to be taken.

shall furnish every person being desirous of a copy of the same, paying for such copy after the rate of 6*d.* for every two hundred words: the officer may administer the oaths in the aforesaid cases, and copies attested by the proper officer shall be deemed legal evidence. *s.* 5.

Memorials of grants or assignments made and executed *above forty miles* from the office of clerk of the peace, &c. to be registered upon producing an affidavit made by one of the witnesses before one of the judges of Westminster, by a master in Chancery. 3 *G. III. c.* 24. *s.* 6.

The officer or deputy to attend, upon reasonable notice and satisfaction, with the books of entries, at every such election. 3 *G. III. c.* 24. *s.* 7.

Officers guilty of neglect or misdemeanor to forfeit 100*l.*; and prosecutions to be commenced within twelve months. *s.* 8, 9.

ELECTORS OF CITIES, TOWNS, BOROUGHS, AND CINQUE-PORTS.

These may be divided into three classes, viz.

1. Electors as Freeholders.
2. Electors as Freemen or Burgesses.
3. Electors as Inhabitants.

The acts 7th and 8th *W. III.* to prevent fraudulent votes was a general act, and not confined to *electors for counties only;* but the subsequent regulations by the acts 10th and 12th of *Anne, c.* 23, 25, were confined to electors for knights of the shire only; it being however thought necessary that the provisions contained in the two last-mentioned acts should be extended to cities and towns counties of themselves, wherein persons have a right to vote in respect to an estate of the yearly value of 40*s.*; act 13 *G. II. c.* 20. after reciting the act 10 *Anne, c.* 23. *st.* 1, 2. (See *supra,*) and act 12 *Anne, s.* 1. *c.* 5. (the last-mentioned act since repealed by the act 18 *G. II. c.* 18. *st.* 2.) enacts as follows, viz.

Persons voting as freeholders, not having an estate *one year before election,* shall be subject to the penalties and forfeitures ordained by the 10th of *Anne.* 13 *G. II. c.* 20.

But the act 19 *G. II. c.* 28. *s.* 2. after reciting the act 10 *Anne, c.* 23. and the act 12 *Anne, st.* 1. *c.* 5. the act 13 *G. II. c.* 20. and the act 18 *G. II. c.* 18. repeals so much of the act 13 *G. II.* as extends the said provisions to such cities and towns that are counties of themselves, and enacts as follows, viz.

No person shall vote for the election of members for any city and town, *being a county of itself*, in respect of any freehold, unless assessed to the land-tax *twelve calendar months* next before such election: provided that nothing shall extend to any person voting for cities and towns as are counties in themselves, in right of any rents, messuages, or seats belonging to any offices not usually charged to the land-tax, and the commissioners of the land-tax are to sign duplicates of the assessment, to be delivered to the clerks of the peace, &c. and filed amongst the records of the sessions, and copies are to be given to persons paying for them after the rate of sixpence for every three hundred words. 19 *G. II. c.* 28. *s.* 3.

Persons voting, to have a freehold estate of *forty shillings*, and to be in possession *above twelve calendar months*, except the same came to them within such time aforesaid by descent, marriage, marriage-settlement, devise, or promotion; and no person shall vote in right of any freehold fraudulently conveyed, or vote more than once at the same election, under penalty of *40l.*

No *parliamentary or parochial tax* or duty to be deemed *any charge* payable out or in respect of any freehold. 19 *G. II. c.* 28. *s.* 5.

This act, other than the clauses concerning the allowance of cheque books, and the notice of the time and place of election, and proceeding to election, shall not extend to any city or town being a county of itself, or where the right of voting is by burgage tenure, or where the right of voting in respect of such freehold does not require the same to be of the clear yearly value of 40*s.* *s.* 3.

BURGAGE TENURES.

Definition.

BURGAGE tenure has been defined as *one undivided and indivisible tenement*, neither *created*, nor *capable of being created within time of memory*, which has *immemorially given a right* of voting; or an entire indivisible tenement, holden of the superior lord of a borough, by an immemorial certain rent distinctly reserved, to which the right of voting is incident.

Of Electors as Freemen or Burgesses.

Every person, to be entitled to vote *as a freeman or burgess*, ought to be *regularly admitted*, and the entry thereof stamped as directed by act 5 *G. III.*

These duties have been increased by several subsequent acts, which were repealed by act 44 *G. III. c.* 98. for consolidating the stamp duties, pursuant to which the duty upon admission to any corporation in England is now 1*l.*; in Scotland, 19*s.*

Officers neglecting or refusing for one month to make such entry shall forfeit 20*l.* 5 *G. III. c.* 46.

By act 3 *G. III. c.* 15. (the Durham Act,) no person claiming as a freeman to vote at any election shall be permitted to give his vote, unless such person shall have *been admitted to the freedom* of such city, town, or borough, *twelve calendar months* before the first day of such election; but this not to extend to any person entitled to his freedom by birth, marriage, or servitude. 3 *G. III. c.* 15. *s.* 1.

Proceedings to obtain Admissions.

Any person entitled to be admitted a citizen, burgess, or freeman, &c. of any city, &c. town corporate, borough, cinque-port, &c. and applying to the mayor, or other proper officer, giving him notice, and specifying the nature of his claim; if such mayor or other officer shall refuse to admit such person, and a mandamus shall issue for compelling his admission, the mayor, &c. shall pay all costs. 12 *G. III. c.* 21. *s.* 1.

Freemen to be admitted to inspect the entries of admission, to take copies, &c. and any mayor or bailiff denying inspection of such entries, or to give copies thereof, shall for every refusal forfeit 100*l.* to be recovered by action of debt, but the action must be commenced *within one year* after cause arisen. 12. *G. III. c.* 21. *s.* 2.

In consequence of the constitution of some corporations admitting of freemen or burgesses being made either by purchase or favour, without any antecedent titles, and voting for members of Parliament, the legislature, in some degree, to check that privilege, which had been greatly abused in many places, but particularly Durham, enacted by Act 3 *G. III.* therefore called the Durham Act, as follows, viz.

None to vote at elections, (except persons entitled to their freedom by birth, marriage, or servitude,) as freemen who have not been admitted 12 months. 3 *G. III. c.* 15. *s.* 1, 2.

Officers of corporations, or other persons wilfully antedating any admission, to forfeit 500*l.* *s.* 3.

Any candidate, or his agent, or any two freemen, may inspect the books and papers of admission. *s.* 4.

The 5th and 6th sections point out the mode for recovering the penalties, and the latter enacts, that proceedings must be commenced within one year after the penalties incurred.

This act shall be read by the returning officer at every election, where the right is in the whole or in part in freemen, immediately after reading the 2 *G. II. c.* 24. 3 *G. III. c.* 15. *s.* 7.

This act not to extend to London or Norwich. *s.* 8.

Defendants to informations in the nature of *quo warranto* for the exercise of any office or franchise in any city, borough, or town corporate, may plead the holding it for six years or more. 32 *G. II. c.* 58 *s.* 1.

But forfeiture of office, within six years before information, may be replied to such plea. *s.* 2.

Titles derived under an election, not to be affected on account of defect in the title of the person electing, if he was in the exercise of his office six years previous to the information. *s.* 3.

Officers having the custody of the corporation records, are to permit any member thereof to inspect the book of admission of freemen, &c. on penalty of 100*l.* *s.* 4.

Of Electors as Inhabitants.

These must be—1st. Inhabitants, *householders*,* or—2d. *Inhabitants paying scot and lot.* In some cases, as in Peterborough, &c. the electors consist of both descriptions of persons.

To be an inhabitant *paying scot and lot*, is now understood to mean a person who is rated, and pays the parish taxes.

Burgesses, Commonalty, Potwallers, and Populacy.

Burgesses are defined by Whitelocke, to be the inhabitants and freemen of boroughs, or inhabitants of towns or boroughs, inclosed or fortified.

Commonalty, by the particular constitution and corporate name of a place, may signify a restricted number, but its more proper and general acceptation comprehends the whole body of the inhabitants.

Populacy.—This term, in the case of Seaford, was explained by the House to mean *inhabitant housekeepers, paying scot and lot*; but in the case of Honiton, 3d February, 1710-11, the word *populace* is used both by the parties and the committee, as different from inhabitants.

Occasionality is fatal to all descriptions of inhabitants.

Any person voting as an inhabitant, *paying scot and lot*, &c. who shall not have been so *six months*, previous to the election, shall forfeit 20*l.*; but this not to extend to persons acquiring possession in any borough, by descent, devise, marriage, marriage-settlement, or promotion to any office or benefice, nor to persons claiming a right to vote, under any *other description* than inhabitants paying scot and lot. 26 *G. III. c.* 100.

---

* With respect to what persons shall be deemed householders, it has been determined, that no person can be deemed a householder who does not possess the *exclusive right to the use of the outward door of the building*, although by taking inmates he may for a time have relinquished the exercise of that exclusive right; nor can a person whose habitation is composed of more apartments than one, be so deemed, unless he possess *the exclusive right to the use of the staircase, doorway, &c.* The house must also be *a dwelling house*, and the legal meaning of the term *householder* or *inmate*, must be determined on the general principles of the law of the land, and not on any thing suggested by local usage.

OF CANDIDATES.

THE laws relative to candidates for seats in Parliament may be divided into three classes, viz.

1. OF PERSONS INELIGIBLE TO BE MEMBERS.—2. OF THEIR QUALIFICATIONS; AND—3. OF THEIR PRIVILEGES.

1. *Of Persons ineligible to be Members.*

Minors.—Persons *under* 21 *years*, who shall presume to sit or vote in Parliament, shall incur such penalties and forfeitures, as if they had presumed to sit and vote without being chosen or returned, and every election or return of any person under that age, is declared to be null and void. 7 & 8 *W. III. c.* 25.

Commons Journal, 10*th March*, 1623, *and* 18*th February*, 1625.

Aliens by the law of Parliament are incapable of being members, and excluded by a vote of the House.

Denizens and naturalized Aliens.—No person born out of England, Scotland, or Ireland, or the dominions thereunto belonging, is capable of being a member of either House. 12 & 13 *W. III. c.* 2.

No person *to be naturalized* unless in the bill *there be a disabling clause* inserted, nor any bill to be received for that purpose without such clause. 1 *G. I. c.* 4. *s.* 2.

Papists, by 30 *Car. II. c.* 1. which directs the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, and the declaration against popery.

Traitors and *felons*, as being incapable to sit any where.

Outlaws in criminal prosecutions, but not in civil suits.

Ideots and *Madmen*, and *Deaf* and *Dumb*, (said to be.)

Peers and *Judges*, as constituting a separate branch of the legislature.

Sheriffs, *Mayors*, and *Bailiffs of Boroughs* in their respective jurisdictions, as being returning officers.

A person who is elected to serve in the House of Commons by the people, may, by the law and custom of Parliament, be disabled and incapable to sit as a member, as where a person has been guilty of any crime which renders him infamous, and the like.

Bribery.—Persons guilty of a breach of the Treating Act, labour under a temporary incapacity.

Members on double returns are incapable of sitting *till the returns* are determined by a committee; and there is a resolution of the House to this effect, made at the commencement of every session.

Members who have taken their seats are ineligible for *any other place*, until they have vacated their former seats; but persons elected for one place, may, before they take their seats, be returned for any other place; in which case, by an order of the House, they are to make their election *by that day three weeks*, for which of the places they will serve, provided there be no question upon the return from that place.

No members, except commissioners of the treasury and land tax, to be concerned directly or indirectly, in farming, collecting, or managing any of the salt duties, granted by this or any other subsequent act relative thereto. 5 *W. & M. c.* 7.

No member of Parliament shall be a commissioner or farmer of the excise, or a commissioner of appeals, or comptroller, or auditor of the duty of excise; and such person, if elected, is declared incapable of sitting in the House of Commons. 11 & 12 *W. III. c.* 2. *s.* 15.

No member to be a commissioner, or farmer of the customs, and persons executing such offices shall be incapable of sitting. 12 and 13 *W. III. c.* 10. *s.* 89, 90.

Persons also holding any *new office*, or *place of profit* whatsoever under the crown, created since the year 1705, shall be incapable of sitting.* 6 *Anne, c.* 7. *s.* 25.

Members accepting any office of profit, whilst members, their election to be void; but such persons may be re-elected. 6 *Anne, c.* 7. *s.* 26.

No office to be executed by too many commissioners. *s.* 27.

This act not to extend to officers of the army or navy. *s.* 28.

Persons disabled, if returned as members, their election to be void, and to be liable to a penalty of 500*l.* *s.* 29.

---

* By act 15 *Geo. II. c.* 13. *s.* 8. governors, directors, or proprietors of the Bank of England, shall not be thereby incapacitated from taking their seats in Parliament.

Pensioners of the Crown.

After reciting act 6 *Anne, c.* 7. it is enacted, that no person, having a pension from the crown, shall be capable of being elected a member of the House of Commons, under penalty of forfeiting 20*l.* for every day's sitting. 1 *G. I. st.* 2. *c.* 56.

Placemen.

No commissioners of the revenue in Ireland, or of the navy or victualling office, or any deputies or clerks in any of the said offices, or in any of the following offices, viz. the lord high treasurer, or commissioners of the treasury, auditor, tellers, or chancellor of the exchequer, commissioners of the admiralty, paymasters of the army or navy, principal secretaries of state, or commissioners of salt, stamps, appeals, wine-licences, hackney coaches, hawkers and pedlars; persons holding any office, civil or military, in the island of Minorca, or in Gibraltar, except officers holding commissions in any regiment there only, shall be capable of being elected, or sitting or voting as a member of any parliament. 15 *Geo. II. c.* 22. *s.* 1.

The returns of such members *to be declared void*, and the persons so sitting, or voting, shall be liable to a penalty of £220 for every day of such sitting, and be incapable of holding any office of honor or profit under his Majesty. 15 *Geo. II. c.* 22. *s.* 2.

Exempts the treasurer and comptroller of the navy, the secretaries of the treasury, secretary to the chancellor of the exchequer, secretaries to the admiralty, under-secretary to any of the principal secretaries of state, or the deputy-paymaster of the army, from the operations of this act. *s.* 3.

For further securing the freedom and independence of Parliament, all persons *holding contracts* for the public service, are declared incapable of being elected or sitting, and any member accepting a contract, his seat shall be void; but by sec. 3. this not to extend to incorporated trading companies. 22 *G. III. c.* 45. *s.* 1, 2.

Persons disqualified by this act, if elected, such election to be void; and disabled persons who shall sit in the House of Commons, shall forfeit 500*l.* for each day.

A condition shall be inserted in all public contracts, that no member of the House of Commons shall have any share thereof; and contractors admitting members to share in their contracts, shall forfeit 500*l.*, and prosecutions shall be commenced within twelve months. 22 *G. III. c.* 45. *s.* 10, 11.

Priests and deacons in the church of England, and ministers of the church of Scotland, are also disabled. 41 *G. III. c.* 63.

QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS.

By an old stat. 1 *Hen. V. c.* 1. knights of shires were not to be chosen, unless *resident within the shire*, the day of the date of the writ, and the citizens and burgesses *resident, dwelling*, and free in the same cities and boroughs. These regulations, however, although not absolutely repealed, are nevertheless now disregarded.

Knights of the shires shall be *notable knights of the same counties, or shall be able to be knights,** and no man *to be such knight*, who stands in the degree of yeoman, or under. 23 *Hen. VI. c.* 14.

No person shall be capable to sit and vote as a member of the House of Commons, who shall not have *an estate of freehold or copyhold for his own life*, or some greater estate, either in law or equity, over and above what will satisfy and clear all incumbrances, of the respective annual value hereinafter limited, viz. 600*l. per annum for every knight of the shire*, and 300*l. per annum for every citizen, burgess*, or *baron of the cinque ports;* and persons not being possessed of such estates respectively, their election and return shall be void. 9 *Anne, c.* 5.

This act not to extend to the eldest son of a peer, or of a person qualified to be a knight of the shire; and the universities may elect members as formerly. 9 *Anne, c.* 5. *s.* 2, 3.

No person to be qualified by virtue of any mortgaged premises,

* At the time of making this statute, freeholders of 40*l.* per annum were compellable to take the order of knighthood, which law was abolished by *st.* 16 *Charles I. c.* 1.; and a much larger qualification required by 9 *Anne, c.* 5.—See above.

unless the mortgagee has been in possession *seven years* before the election. 9 *Anne*, *c.* 5. *s.* 4.

Every candidate, at the request of another candidate, or of two of the voters, shall take the oaths of qualification, according to the form therein prescribed, viz. 600*l.* for a county, and 300*l.* for a city.

Such oaths to be administered by the sheriff or under-sheriff of such county, or mayor, bailiff, or other officers for any city, borough, or port, who shall, *within three months* after the taking thereof, certify the same into the Queen's Bench, or Chancery, under penalty of 100*l.* and any candidate refusing to take the oath, his election to be void.

One shilling only shall be received as a fee for administering the oath, two shillings for the certificate, and two shillings for filing. *s.* 8.

All members (not particularly excepted, viz. the Scotch members, and members for the universities) are to deliver in at the table, while the house is sitting, a signed schedule of their respective qualifications, and to take and subscribe the oaths prescribed therein, which oaths are to be administered by the House, and enrolled after the usual oaths of qualification having been taken, and the schedules are to be filed.* 33 *G. II. c.* 20.

Any member presuming to act contrary thereto, or without being duly qualified, his election shall be void, and a new writ shall be issued. 33 *G. II. c.* 20. *s.* 2.

By sect. 3, the eldest sons, or heirs apparent, of peers, or lords of Parliament, or of persons qualified to be knights of the shire, members of universities, or Scots members, are exempted from the operation of this act.

For disabling papists to sit in the House, no member shall act until he has taken the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, and subscribed the declaration therein mentioned. 30 *Car. II. st.* 2. *c.* 1.

Regulates the time and place of taking the oaths, and making and subscribing the declaration. *s.* 4.

---

* By act 33 *Geo. III. c.* 20, extending these qualifications to members of the united Parliament, qualifications may be situate in England, Wales, Berwick-upon-Tweed, or Ireland.

Members of Parliament not swearing and declaring as aforesaid, and recusants convict are forbidden the king's and queen's presence, under penalty of 500*l.* 30 *Geo. II. st.* 2. *c.* 1. *s.* 5, 6.

Either house of Parliament may cause any of their members to swear or subscribe as aforesaid. *s.* 7.

The places of members disabled to vote shall be void, and writs shall be issued for new elections. *s.* 8.

No member of either house of Parliament shall be capable of voting, &c. till he has taken the abjuration oath; and members presuming to vote contrary hereto, shall forfeit 500*l.*

ABSTRACTS OF THE ACTS

FOR REGULATING ELECTIONS IN

LONDON, NORWICH, AND COVENTRY.

UPON all elections by the liverymen and at the wardmotes, the presiding officer is to appoint a convenient number of clerks to take the poll, and none are to be polled who are not sworn; (this clause also prescribes the liveryman's oath;) on refusal to swear, the poll to be rejected. 11. *G. I. c.* 18.

The oaths to be taken, if required, as appointed by 1. *G. II. st.* 2. *c.* 13; and the preceding officer and sworn clerk to administer the oaths, on penalty of 60*l.* *s.* 2.

Taking false oaths, or suborning others so to do, to be deemed perjury. *s.* 3.

If a poll shall be demanded, the presiding officer shall begin the same *upon the day* it is demanded, or the next day following at the farthest, except Sunday, and proceed therein *from day to day*, until such poll be finished, and shall finish the poll at elections by the liverymen *within seven days* (exclusive of Sunday,) and the poll at the wardmotes within *three days* (exclusive of Sunday) after the commencing the same respectively, and shall, upon adjourning the poll each day at each election, seal up the poll books with the seals, and in the presence of such of the candidates as shall desire the same, and the said poll-book shall not be opened again but at the place of election, and be

duly and truly cast up; and within *two days* after such castings up, the number of the votes or polls for each candidate shall be fairly and publicly declared to the electors at the place of election; and if a scrutiny be demanded, the scrutineers shall not exceed *six* on each side: the scrutiny, if demanded, shall be commenced within *ten days* after the delivery of the copies of the said polls, and be proceeded upon day by day, (Sundays excepted,) and be finished within fifteen days after the commencement of such scrutiny, and the presiding officer shall, within four days after finishing such scrutiny, publicly declare at the place of such election which of the candidates are duly elected, and the number of legal votes appearing to him upon the scrutiny. 11 *G. I. c.* 18. *s.* 4.

This section also regulates the elections at wardmotes, and enacts that true copies of the objections against the pollers shall be delivered, and subjects persons offending to 200*l.* penalty.

After any election and scrutiny, a true list to be given of the voters disallowed by the presiding officers under their hands, to any candidate who shall demand the same *within six days after such demand*, such candidate paying for the same. *s.* 5.

The mayor is to issue precepts to the companies to bring in lists. *s.* 6.

The mayor, upon request by any candidate or his agent, on any election where a scrutiny shall be demanded and granted, shall issue precepts as has been usual, requiring the masters and wardens of the livery companies to cause their clerks forthwith to deliver two true lists of all the liverymen of their respective companies, who shall return them on oath *within three days* after the receipt of such precept, one of which lists the mayor is to cause to be delivered to the candidates on each side at such election, or their agents. *s.* 6.

No person shall vote at any election, who shall not have been upon the livery *twelve calendar months* before such election; and who shall not have paid their respective livery fines, or, having paid them, shall have received back any allowance in respect thereof, nor who shall, within two years before such election, be discharged from paying any of the rates or taxes payable by the citizens of London, or within the above period have received alms, and the vote of every such person shall be void. *s.* 14.

The 20th section prescribes the distribution of forfeitures.

Norwich.

Persons, before they are permitted to poll as freemen, must take the oath prescribed by this act, and if refusing, their votes to be disallowed. 8 *G. II. c.* 8.

One of the clerks is also by this act to go into the prisons to take the votes there, and persons guilty of perjury are to be punished as in other cases.

Coventry.

An open council is to be held at St. Mary's Hall on the first and last Tuesday in every month. 21 *G. III. c.* 54.

By the 2d section of this act, the fee for taking up freedoms for this city shall not exceed three shillings, exclusive of stamps.

Persons taking up their freedom are to produce regular indentures of apprenticeship for *seven years*, and declare, upon oath, the name of the master, the trade to which they served, the place of residence during the time they served, and their own residence at the time of claiming to be admitted to their freedoms. *s.* 3, 7.

The town clerk is to enter all the above particulars in a book, and lists of the names of all the freemen, &c. admitted, are to be pasted on the church doors. 21 *G. III. c.* 54. *s.* 6.

No council to be held for admitting the claims of freemen, after notice given by the sheriff for any election.

The electors are to be sworn, and the parties swearing falsely to be liable to all the penalties of perjury. *s.* 7.

Returning officers admitting persons to poll without being sworn, and members of the council for refusing to admit electors, to be liable to a penalty of 100*l.* *s.* 9, 10.

If the town clerk shall neglect, or make fraudulent entries, he shall forfeit 10*l.* for every such offence.

This act shall not extend to any freemen of the said city, but such as have a right to vote for the election of members of parliament for the said city. *s.* 13.

The remaining sections of this act prescribe the election booths to be erected in the market place, called *Cross Cheap-*

ing; regulate the recovery of penalties; limit actions to be brought within two years, and constitute this a public act, and enact that deeds or indentures of apprenticeships, &c. shall be registered by the town clerk.

Exclusive of the above, there are certain acts which have been made of a local nature, as 34 and 35 *Hen. VIII.* for Cheshire; 35 *Hen. VIII. c.* 11. for Wales; 25 *Charles II. c.* 9. for Durham; 5 *Anne, c.* 13; 9 *Anne, c.* 5.; 12 *Anne, c.* 6.; and 7 *G. II. c.* 16. for Scotland; with respect to which it may be observed in general, that all the laws which concern elections throughout the counties of England, are also in force throughout the united kingdom.

The mode relative to elections for Scotland will be seen hereafter.

THE ELECTION OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ROYAL BOROUGHS OF SCOTLAND.

THE following *is the substance* of the laws for electing members of the royal boroughs, as inserted in the Treaty of Union, viz. The city of Edinburgh is allowed to elect *one commissioner or representative* to serve in Parliament; and the remainder of the boroughs are divided into *fourteen districts*, each district to send *one representative.* Each borough is governed by its own charter or set. The members of Parliament are not chosen by the inhabitants at large at the different boroughs, but *by delegates* chosen by the councils of the different boroughs of the fourteen districts. Thus the right of election is delegated to *four*, or at most *five persons*, who elect the member for the boroughs they represent.

With respect to the mode of election of the *fifteen representatives*, it is ordered, that the sheriff of the shire of Edinburgh shall, on the receipt of the writ directed to him, forthwith direct his precept to the lord provost of Edinburgh, to cause a burgess to be elected for that city; and, on receipt of such precept, the city of Edinburgh shall elect their member, and their common clerk shall certify his name to the sheriff of Edinburgh, who shall annex it to his writ, and return it.

The mode of electing a member *for the city of Edinburgh* is

as follows; the right of election is vested in the whole magistrates and council, ordinary and extraordinary. The clerk takes the oath against bribery, and to make a faithful return.

The form prescribed for the election of the representatives of the *fourteen* districts of boroughs, is as follows: the sheriff, on receiving the writ, endorses on it the date at which it came to hand; he then makes out a precept to every borough within his jurisdiction, requiring them to elect a commissioner to meet at the presiding borough of the district, there to assist in electing a burgess to serve in Parliament. These precepts must be delivered by the sheriff to the chief magistrate residing in each borough, *within four days* from the receipt of the writ, under the penalty of *one hundred pounds* for each offence.

Under a similar penalty, the chief magistrate must endorse upon the precept the date of its delivery, and *within two days* must call a meeting of the council of the borough, to fix a day, at the distance of at least *two* free days, for the election of a commissioner or delegate to go to the head-borough to vote at the election of the member for the district.

When the council is met for this election, they first take the oath of allegiance, and sign the assurance; and also take the oath of abjuration, if required by any member. The town clerk then takes an oath against bribery, and to make a faithful return. The members of the meeting also take an oath against bribery, if any of the number require it. The votes are then put, and the clerk is directed to draw up a commission to the person who has the majority, and to sign it, and affix to it the common seal of the borough. The clerk not doing his duty forfeits *five hundred pounds* to the commissioner duly elected. No particular qualification is requisite to entitle a person to be elected commissioner for a borough. The commissioners from the different boroughs being thus chosen, meet at the presiding or head-borough of the district, *on the thirtieth day* after the date of the writ; or if that should fall on Sunday, on the day following, betwixt eleven and twelve o'clock before noon. The commissioner from the presiding borough, administers to the clerk of his own borough, (who is also clerk of the meeting,) an oath against bribery, and that he shall make a faithful return.

If the clerk refuse to act, or take the oath, the commissioners have power to choose another, and administer the oath to him. The commissions are then read; and protests may be entered

against them. The commissioners take the oaths to government, and the oath against bribery; they then give their votes for a burgess to serve in parliament; and the person presiding, and clerk, having signed the minutes, the meeting is dissolved.

If, however, any person assert that he was duly elected delegate from a borough in the district, but has got no commission, and declare for whom he would have voted; upon taking the oaths, his declarations will be inserted in the minutes of the meeting, but he cannot be allowed to vote.

The clerk of the meeting must return to the sheriff the person who is elected by the majority of commissioners, producing regular commissions, signed by the clerk, and having the common seal of their borough annexed; leaving it to the House of Commons, on petition, to rectify any errors or injustice that may have been committed.

If the votes of the commissioners are *equal*, the commissioner chosen by the presiding borough, besides his own, has also a casting vote; and the boroughs preside by rotation.

If a vacancy should happen during the sitting of parliament, by the death of the member, or by his acceptance of a place, the borough which presided last, continues to do so at this intermediate election, and its commissioner has the casting vote.

If the commissioner from the borough be absent, or refuse to vote, the commissioner from the borough which presided *last but one*, has the casting vote, over and above his own; and if he too be absent, or refuse to vote, it goes to the commissioner of the borough which presided *last but two*, and so on backwards.

If a borough have no magistrates at the time of an election, on account of having been deprived of its elective privileges, and not yet revived, the next borough in order entitled to preside, becomes the returning borough, and its commissioner has the casting vote; and the borough which ought to have presided, is not allowed to do so, till all the others of the district have presided in their turn.

If a commissioner, after he is chosen, cannot attend on the day of election, a town council has no power to choose a new commissioner to vote for them at the election of the member for the district.

Any man, not otherwise incapacitated from holding a seat in parliament, may be elected to serve as member for the city of Edinburgh, or for a district of boroughs in Scotland. It is even no good objection, that he has not been created an honorary burgess of any borough in the district.

ELECTIONS FOR IRELAND.

Abstract of Acts passed in the United Parliament of Great Britain since the Irish Union.

By the 41 *G. III. c.* 52. *s.* 1, 2, 3, all persons disabled from sitting in the British parliament shall be disabled from sitting in the united parliament, and all persons disabled from sitting in the Irish parliament shall be disabled from sitting for Ireland, and all persons disabled by British statutes shall not hereby be enabled to sit for Ireland.

By section 4, persons holding certain specified places in Ireland, viz. commissioners of the customs, excise, stamp duties, (except commissioners of the treasury,) commissioners of appeals, accounts, army agents, contractors, (except members of trading companies,) deputies, or clerks of the treasury, (except the secretary of the treasury,) auditors of the exchequer, or chancellor of the exchequer, (except the secretary,) or clerks to commissioners of stamps of appeals, shall be disabled from sitting in any future parliament of the united kingdom.

Persons holding places under the lord lieutenant, created since 33 *Geo. III. c.* 41. shall also be in future disabled. 41 *G. III. c.* 52. *s.* 5.

Disabled persons sitting in parliament shall incur the penalties under former British or Irish acts, and if disabled under this act, shall forfeit £500 per day. *s.* 6.

This act not to extend to offices held for life, or during good behaviour, except in certain cases. *s.* 8.

Members accepting offices under the crown, shall thereby vacate their seats, but they may be re-elected. *s.* 9.

Abstract of 43 *Geo. III. c.* 59.

This act, which is entitled, "An Act for amending the 35th of his present Majesty, for regulating the Election of Members to serve in Parliament, and for repealing the several acts therein mentioned," after reciting, that no person shall be admitted to vote at any election of a member to serve in parliament, by virtue of a freehold under the yearly value of *twenty pounds*, unless such freehold should have been in his actual occupation, either by his residing thereon, or tilling or grazing the same to the amount of *forty shillings* yearly value thereof, at the time of his registering the same pursuant to the provisions of the said

act, and also for *six successive calendar months* at the least between the date of such registry and the teste of the writ for holding the election, unless such freehold shall come to such person by devise, descent, marriage, or marriage settlement, and was demised at the time it so came, and continued at the time of such election to be held under him by virtue of such demise: and also reciting that the aforesaid wholesome provisions of the said recited act might be evaded by pretended grants or of agreements for leases for a life or lives, though no lease shall have been executed, or such life or lives been nominated; enacts, That every person who, from and after the passing of this act, shall register a freehold under the yearly value of *twenty pounds*, not arising from a rent charge, shall register the same in manner and form following, instead of registering it in manner and form prescribed by the said recited act, or any law or laws now in force; (that is to say,) he shall at any sessions of the peace for the county, town, or city, wherein his freehold lies, held *twelve months* at the least previous to the teste of the writ for holding the election at which he shall tender his vote, produce in open court, the deed, lease, or instrument under which his freehold arises, and take and subscribe an oath, or, if a quaker, the affirmation.

And if the freehold in right or virtue whereof any person shall desire to qualify himself to vote shall not arise by virtue of a deed, lease, or instrument, the person desiring to register it shall describe the same in the oath or affirmation so to be taken by him, according to the true state and nature of his tenure; in which case the words in the foregoing oath, importing that the same arises by virtue of deed, lease, or instrument, shall be omitted, and such description inserted in the place thereof.

Every such oath or affirmation shall be read aloud in open court, and be signed by *two* at least of the justices presiding there; and shall be then delivered by the court to the acting clerk of the peace, to be filed and kept amongst the records of the county, city, or town, wherein such freehold shall lie. *s.* 2.

Every deed, lease, or instrument produced by any person making the affidavit or affirmation aforesaid, shall be indorsed at the time in open court by the acting clerk of the peace, with his name and the day of the month and year; and the clerk of the peace shall then and there compare the deed, lease, or instrument with the affidavit of registry; and he shall *within ten days* from the date hereof, enter into the book of his registry the date

thereof, the names of the parties, and the name or names of the life or lives for which the same is held. *s.* 3.

By section 4, No person shall be admitted to vote at any election to be held in Ireland for a member to serve in Parliament, by virtue of a freehold under the clear yearly value of *twenty pounds*, who shall not have so registered his freehold twelve calendar months at the least before the teste of the writ for holding the election at which he shall offer his vote; and that every person who shall offer to vote as a freeholder, in right of a freehold *under the yearly value of twenty pounds*, shall, before he shall be admitted to poll at any election, if so required by the sheriff or any elector, declare upon oath from whom he holds or derives his freehold, if he holds it under any person or persons; and if the same be situate in a city, town corporate, or market town, and describe the street or part of the city or town in which the same is situate, and who are his next resident neighbours, and when the same was granted, and for what life or lives, and whether such life or lives, or any of them, is or are in being at the time of such election; and whether he is the person who actually registered the freehold under which he desires to vote; and the said declarations, in all such cases, shall be entered in the poll book taken by the sheriffs, or their deputies, at such election; and he shall, if so required by any elector, before he be admitted to poll, take an oath.

The blanks in the said oath or affirmation shall be filled up in conformity to the oath or affirmation which the person going to take the same shall have taken at the time of his registering such freehold. *s.* 6.

From and after the commencement of this act, all the provisions, clauses, conditions, regulations, and penalties of the said recited acts, or any acts amending the same, with respect to freeholds, under the yearly value of twenty pounds, and which are not hereby altered or repealed, shall be applied, construed, deemed, and taken, to extend to freeholds under the value of twenty pounds, the registry whereof is, by this act, directed and required, as fully and effectually as if the same were hereby and herein specifically enacted and applied thereto. *s.* 7.

If any person shall fraudulently and knowingly grant any interest importing to be a freehold, which really is not so, with intent to enable any person to vote, such grant shall be good and valid against the grantor thereof for every purpose but enabling the grantee to vote. *s.* 8.

If such grantor shall be possessed only of a term of years

therein, and shall demise the same, or any part thereof, for a life or lives, with intent to induce the lessee therein to register such a freehold, or to vote as a freeholder thereout, he shall forfeit *one hundred pounds* to any person who shall sue for the same by action, bill, plaint, or information in any court of law. *s.* 9.

For the better securing the due registry of freeholds, the several clerks of the peace, or their deputies, of the several counties of Ireland, shall, at the general quarter sessions of the peace, or adjournment thereof next after his appointment, take and subscribe an oath: which oath the said clerks and deputy clerks of the peace are hereby required to deliver to the treasurer of the county, to preserve amongst the records of the county. *s.* 10.

The said several and respective clerks and deputy clerks of the peace shall, from time to time, as directed by the 35 G. *III.* give to every freeholder who shall require the same, a full, true, and correct return of the names of all such persons as shall register their freeholds according to the directions of this act and of the said act of the thirty-fifth year of his present Majesty's reign, and shall certify, at the foot thereof, that the said return so made is true and correct, according to the schedule hereunto annexed. *s.* 11.

By section 12. this act not to prevent persons voting before a time therein limited. *s.* 12.

For the greater convenience of registering freeholds, every adjournment of a sessions of the peace, and adjournment of an adjournment, shall be deemed a sessions of the peace within the meaning of the 35 *G. III.* and this present act; and in case there shall have been no adjournment of such sessions, or no adjournment of an adjournment of such sessions, and that such sessions shall in that case lapse, a sessions shall be holden at which the clerk of the peace or his deputy shall attend, for the purpose of registering of freeholders, the first Monday in the next month, at the place where the last quarter sessions of the peace shall have been held for the purpose of registering of freeholders; and every adjournment of every such sessions to any city or market town within the county shall be deemed and taken to be a sessions within the meaning of the said act or this present act. *s.* 13.

By section 14. taking any false oath or affirmation under this act, to be deemed perjury, and punished accordingly.

SCHEDULE

TO WHICH THIS ACT REFERS.

Name of Freeholder and Residence.	Name of Landlord and Residence.	Value of Freehold.	Description.	Situation.	Barony or Half Barony.	Names of Life or Lives or other Tenure.	Rent.	Date of Registry.

IRISH PETITIONS.

ALL former British acts respecting petitions, for undue elections, returns, opposing right of election, &c. are extended to such petitions to the united Parliament from any place in the united kingdom. 41 *G. III. c.* 101. and 42 *G. III. c.* 106.

Former regulations of British acts are extended to petitions on Irish elections. 42 *G. III. c.* 106. *s.* 1.

Irish petitions shall state all matters to which witnesses are to be examined. *s.* 2.

Parties shall interchange lists of voters. *s.* 3.

The committee may, on application of the parties, make an order for appointing commissioners to take evidence *in* Ireland, as to matters assigned and limited by the committee. *s.* 4, 7.

Prescribes the mode of nominating such commissioners. *s.* 8, 15.

The chairman of the committee shall issue his warrant to the commissioners to proceed, and the committee shall adjourn. 42 *G. III. c.* 106. *s.* 14, 15, 16.

The 17th and 25th sections regulate the proceedings of the commissioners.

When the evidence is closed, the commissioners shall transmit one copy thereof to the clerk of the crown in Ireland, and another to the speaker of the House of Commons, who may re-assemble a committee, who shall proceed to determine the merits of elections, determining all matters referred to the commissioners, according to the evidence transmitted to them. *s.* 23, 26.

Commissioners may re-assemble on warrant of the committee. *s.* 27.

Sect. 28, 30. inflict the penalties of perjury, and compel the attendance of witnesses; and the 31st section regulates the allowance to commissioners.

By 47 *G. III. c.* 14. the clerk to the commissioners for taking evidence under the above act, 43 *G. III. c.* 106. shall be sworn by the chairman faithfully and truly to take down in writing the evidence adduced, and cause the same to be faithfully transcribed for the use of the commissioners, &c.

Officers employed in any department of the revenue in Ireland are incapacitated for *twelve months* after holding such office,

from voting at elections for members for Ireland, under penalty of 100*l.*; but this act is not to extend to patent offices; *s.* 2. nor to persons resigning before June 1, 1803. 43 *G. III. c.* 26. *s.* 1, 3.

PETITIONS.

No petitions complaining of an undue return shall be proceeded upon in the manner prescribed in act 10 *G. III. c.* 16. and 11 *G. III. c.* 42. and 25 *G. III. c.* 84. unless the same shall be *subscribed by a person claiming therein to have had a right to vote,* or *be returned,* or *alleging himself to have been a candidate* at the election. 2 *G. III. c.* 52. *s.* 1.

A day and hour shall be appointed by the House for taking the same into consideration, and the speaker shall give the notice and order to attend. 10 *G. III. c.* 16.

Where there are several parties on distinct interests, the like notices and orders to be given to all. 11 *G. III. c.* 42.

No petition shall be taken into consideration *within fourteen days* after the commencement of the session, nor *within fourteen days after the return filed. s.* 2.

The House may *alter the time* on like notice and order. 10 *G. III. s.* 3.

Proceedings on the death of members petitioned against, where no notice is given to defend.

In cases above-specified, where the speaker shall be informed of *the death* of any sitting member, or that any member petitioned against does *not intend to defend* his election, such speaker shall immediately send notice thereof to the sheriff, who shall order a copy of the same to be affixed on the doors of the county or town hall, or nearest the church, and notice also to be inserted in the Gazette. The order for taking such petition into consideration shall also be adjourned. 28 *G. III. c.* 52.

Within *thirty days* after notice so inserted in the Gazette, any voter may present a petition to be admitted a party in the complaint. *s.* 3.

Members giving notice of their intention to defend their election, not to be admitted as parties against any such petition, nor to sit in the House till the petition is decided. *s.* 4.

No proceeding to be had upon any petition, unless *one of the subscribers enter into a recognizance* to appear before the House at the time fixed for taking it into consideration; and if no recognizance be duly entered into, the order for taking the petition into consideration shall be discharged, unless cause shall be seen for enlarging the time. *s.* 5.

Recognizances to be entered into before the speaker, and the sufficiency of the sureties to be allowed of by him on the report of two persons appointed by the speaker to examine the same, of which two persons, the clerk or clerk assistant of the House shall always be one, and one of the following officers, *not being members*, the other, viz. masters in Chancery, clerks of the court of King's Bench, prothonotaries in the Common Pleas, and clerks in the Court of Exchequer. *s.* 6.

Sureties living more than forty miles from London may enter into recognizance before a justice; and affidavits made before a master in Chancery, or a justice, to be received as evidence of the sufficiency of sureties. *s.* 7.

Recognizances of petitioners not appearing before the House at the time fixed for proceeding to the appointment of a select committee, to be certified into the Exchequer, such recognizances and certificate to be delivered by the clerk assistant into the Exchequer. *s.* 8.

Of Petitions to oppose the Right.

Persons may, *within twelve months* after the report, petition to be admitted to *oppose the right of election* by such report established. 28 *G. III. c.* 52. *s.* 26.

If no such petitions be presented, the judgment of the committee to be conclusive. *s.* 27.

Forty days are to intervene between the presenting and hearing such petitions. *s.* 28.

Before the hearing such petitions, any person may petition to be admitted to defend such right of election. *s.* 29.

Committee to be appointed to try the merits of such petitions, whose determinations shall be conclusive. *s.* 30.

The act 2 *Geo. II. c.* 24. *s.* 4. is repealed as far as relating to any determination subsequent to passing this act; and all the rules and regulations of the act 10 *Geo. III. c.* 16. the 11 *Geo.*

III. c. 42. and the 25 *Geo. III. c.* 84. shall remain in force with respect to committees appointed under this act, and regulations touching recognizances and payment of costs, not to apply to petitions relating solely to questions respecting the right of election. *s.* 31, 32.

Of Renewed Petitions.

Renewed petitions, *as to the right*, to be prosecuted *within fourteen days* after every new session, and taken into consideration *within fourteen days* after presenting. 34 *G. III. c.* 83. *s.* 1.

If not renewed *within fourteen days*, the judgment of committees to be final; and renewed petitions delivered in together at the table, shall be read in the order in which they were directed to be taken into consideration in the last session.

Of withdrawing Petitions.

No petitions shall be withdrawn, unless the member's seat shall have been vacated. 28 *G. III. c.* 52. *s.* 8.

COMMITTEES.

Of Select Committees.

By 10 *G. III.* c. 16. (commonly called Mr. Grenville's Act,) previous to taking any petition into consideration, the clerk is to put the names of the members drawn into a box or parcel, and attest the same, which shall be sealed by the speaker, who shall attest the making up thereof in his presence, and the names of the members undrawn may be read by the clerk. 10 *G. III. c.* 16.

The house shall not proceed to *other business* previous to reading *the order of the day*, except swearing members; and by act 28 *G. III. c.* 52. except the *receiving reports* from the select committees; altering and amending any return; and *attending his majesty*, or his majesty's commissioners, in the House of Lords. By act 32 *G. III. c.* 1. the House may

also, on the day appointed for taking into consideration petitions complaining of undue elections, receive *any message from the lords*; and on the days appointed for the *trial of articles of impeachment*, may proceed to any business necessary for carrying on the prosecution. 11 *G. III. c.* 42.

If, after counting the House, according to the act 10 *G. III. c.* 16. there be not *one hundred members* present, or if *forty-nine* not set aside or excused, cannot be completed, the House may proceed upon any order of the day for the *call of the House* which shall have been previously fixed on for that day; but if such *forty-nine* members cannot be completed, the House not to proceed until the door is unlocked, and the parties withdrawn. 36 *G. III. c.* 59.

When petitions are to be taken into consideration, the House not to proceed to other business, until there be due attendance, except calling over the House.

Of forming Select Committees.

The sergeant at arms, before the reading of the order of the day for appointing a committee, is to require the attendance of the members, and at his return the House to be counted, and for want of *one hundred members*, to adjourn, and from day to day, until *one hundred* shall be present. 10 *G. III. c.* 16.

If on the day preceding Christmas-day, Whitsun-day, or Good Friday, there shall *not be one hundred members* present, or *forty-nine* not excused cannot be completed, the order for taking any such petition into consideration may be discharged, and the House *may be adjourned* for any number of days. 28 *G. III. c.* 52.

In presence of one hundred, the petitioner's counsel or agents shall be ordered to attend at the bar; but if petitioners do not appear within an hour after the time fixed for appointing select committees, the order for taking such petition into consideration to be discharged. 10 *G. III. c.* 16.

Where no party appears to oppose the petition, the House shall proceed to appoint *a select committee* to try the merits of such petition in the manner after-mentioned. *s.* 14.

When the several parties are in the House, the names of the members to be put into *six boxes or glasses* to be drawn alternately and read by the speaker, till *forty-nine* be drawn. *s.* 5.

Members excused from Serving.

Members who have voted at the election of the complainants are to be set aside, and by *s.* 7, 8, all *above sixty years old* are to be excused, or those *who have served upon election committees* in the same session, unless the number who have not served be insufficient. 10 *G. III. c.* 16. *s.* 6.

Members excused shall not be deemed to have served on any such select committee. 10 *G. III. c.* 16. *s.* 9.

Members verifying other excuses, allegations to be entered, and if the House resolve that they are unable, &c. they are to be excused, and others to be drawn instead, so as to complete the number *forty-nine. s.* 10.

Petitioners declaring that any member drawn is intended for *a nominee,* and such member consenting thereto, he is to serve as such, and another to be drawn to supply his place, but on default of nomination the deficiencies to be supplied by lot, leaving *always fifteen* as a select committee.

If at the time of drawing, *forty-nine* members cannot be completed, the House to proceed in manner directed by act 10 *G. III.* 11 *G. III. c.* 42. *s.* 3.

Appointing Nominees.

Petitioners are to name *one nominee;* and the sitting members another, who may be set aside for the like causes as those chosen by lot, or excused, and others named. 10 *G. III. c.* 16. *s.* 11, 12.

When *more than two parties on distinct interests,* neither of the parties to name a nominee, but when the list is returned to the House, the *thirteen members* are to withdraw, and *within one hour* report the names of *such two members;* and in case such *two members* shall be set aside, they shall choose others, until two are not objected against. 11 *G. III. c.* 42. *s.* 6.

When the nominees are directed to be named, no member to depart until the time of meeting of the said committee is fixed.

For reducing the Lists.

After the *forty-nine* are chosen, the door to be opened, and the House may proceed on other business. Lists of the *forty-nine* to be then given to the petitioners, who, with the clerk, are to withdraw *and strike off,* one alternately, till the number be

reduced to *thirteen*, and the clerk is *within one hour* to deliver a list of them, who with the nominees, are to *be sworn a select committee*. 10 *G. III. c.* 17. *s.* 13.

If on complaint of undue election, there shall be *more than two parties* on distinct interests, each party shall strike off a number from *forty-nine successively*, until the number be reduced to *thirteen*. 11 *G. III. c.* 42.

Special regulations are enacted for reducing the lists, where no party appears to oppose the petition, or waves his right for reducing such list. 28 *G. III. c.* 51. *s.* 14, 15.

Regulations where no Special Return has been made.

Where *no return*, or a *special return*, has been made, any elector may petition, and thereupon a day and hour to be appointed, and notice of the meeting of committees to be given to the petitioners and returning officer. 25 *G. III. c.* 84.

By the 11th sect. of this act the regulations of 10 *G. III. c.* 16. and 11 *G. III. c.* 42. are extended to this act.

When the returning officers cannot be found, or do not appear at committees, other persons may be appointed to appear in their stead; and where more than one petition is presented, the House to determine whether the returning officer is to strike off from the list of members drawn by lot. 35 *G. III. c.* 84. *s.* 12.

Meetings of Committees, and Proceedings when met.

The House shall order the select committee to meet within twenty-four hours, and by section 17, a chairman shall be elected out of the members chosen by ballot; and in case of an equality, the member first drawn to have a casting vote. 10 *G. III. c.* 16. *s.* 13.

The 17th section also regulates the proceedings in the cause by act 28 *G. III. c.* 5. when the merits of petitions depend on questions respecting the right of election, statements of such right are to be delivered in writing. *s.* 17.

10 *G. III. s.* 29. Empowers the clerk of the committee to administer the oath; prescribes the form of the oath, and inflicts the pains and penalties of wilful and corrupt perjury, as inflicted by law in other cases.

Adjournment and Dissolution of Committees.

Select committees are not to adjourn for more than twenty-four hours without leave; and if the House be then sitting, business to be stayed, and motion to be made for adjournment. *s.* 19.

Sunday, Christmas-day, or Good Friday intervening, not to be deemed included. *s.* 20.

Regulates the manner of adjourning the select committee, on their having occasion to report when the House are adjourned. 11 *Geo. III. c.* 42.

Select committee-men not to be absent without leave, nor committee to sit, until all who have not leave be met, and on failure of meeting within one hour, a farther adjournment is to be made, and reported, with the cause thereof. 10 *G. III. c.* 16. *s.* 21.

The chairman at next meeting is to report absentees, who are to be directed to attend next sitting, and be censured or punished at discretion, unless absence proved unavoidable. *s.* 22.

If *thirteen* do not meet, the committee to adjourn. 10 *G. III. c.* 16. *s.* 23.

If the members of such committee, from death or otherwise, shall *for three whole days continue to be less than thirteen*, the committee to be dissolved, and past proceedings are to be void. *s.* 24.

But if a committee shall have sat for business *fourteen days, twelve members* may proceed therein, and if *twenty-five* days, *eleven members* may proceed. 28 *G. III. c.* 52.

The committee shall not be dissolved by any prorogation of parliament. *s.* 33.

On the Determinations of Committees, and their Report to the House.

The committee are to determine finally, and the House shall thereupon confirm or alter the return, or issue a writ for a new election, as the case may require. 10 *G. III. c.* 16. *s.* 18.

Other resolutions may be reported at the same time, and the House may make order thereon. 10 *G. III. s.* 25.

When committees choose to deliberate, the room may be cleared, and questions shall be determined by a majority, in which the chairman is to have a casting vote. 10 *G. III. c.* 16. *s.* 27.

Stanford University Libraries
3 6105 014 101 674

JN
673
.07
v.6

	DATE DUE		

STANFORD UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
STANFORD, CALIFORNIA
94305